

# N C S C E N I C B Y W A Y S



North Carolina  
Department of Transportation

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# INTRODUCTION

The N.C. Department of Transportation has designated 51 scenic byways to give visitors and residents a chance to experience North Carolina's history, geography and culture, while also raising awareness for the protection and preservation of these treasures. Byways are carefully selected to portray the diverse beauty and culture of the Tar Heel State and provide travelers with safe and interesting alternate travel routes.

These byways are intended as an alternative to the faster-paced traffic and commercial areas found along our state's major highways and interstates. Following the byways, motorists will see some of North Carolina's most breathtaking scenery, from the Blue Ridge Mountains in the west to the fertile plains of the Piedmont to the crystal blue shore of our coast.

The routes are clearly marked with N.C. Scenic Byways signs (shown below). Please follow the maps and route descriptions carefully and understand that the maps on each byway page are not to scale and are given as a general guide only. For this reason, a N.C. State Transportation Map is recommended for use in conjunction with the maps in this book.

Portions of some routes are not suitable for various types of vehicles. Special symbols have been inserted in the text to draw attention to these restrictions. Alternate routes are noted when available. A few routes may be briefly interrupted by commercial or municipal areas. In such cases the scenic byway may temporarily end, but directions are given to help drivers resume the route.

Approximate travel time and mileage are also included for each byway to help motorists plan their travels accordingly. These times are intended as a general guide. Please allow extra time to visit some of the specific sites referenced in the byway descriptions.

N.C. Scenic Byways vary in length from three to 173 miles, and in character from curvy mountain roads to ferry rides across coastal sounds. Motorists will see little or no development along the routes, enhancing the natural character and quality of the byways.

If following the byways in reverse order from the descriptions given, please keep in mind that the directions will reverse.

Enjoy exploring North Carolina's less traveled roads.

**NCDOT — Scenic Byways Program**

**1557 Mail Service Center**

**Raleigh, NC 27699-1577**

**Visit our Web site at [www.ncdot.org/~scenic](http://www.ncdot.org/~scenic).**





# LEGEND



SCENIC BYWAY DIRECTIONAL SIGN



SCENIC BYWAY ROUTE



MOUNTAIN



LIGHTHOUSE



POINTS OF INTEREST



CITIES/TOWNS



U.S. ROUTE



N.C. ROUTE



INTERSTATE ROUTE



STATE SECONDARY ROAD (S.R.)



BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY



RAILROAD



RIVER

N



NORTH DIRECTIONAL ARROW



LARGE OR RECREATIONAL VEHICLES  
NOT RECOMMENDED



FERRY ALONG ROUTE



HISTORIC SITE (Open to the public.) \*



STATE PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS \*



NORTH CAROLINA REST AREA



NORTH CAROLINA WELCOME CENTER



NORTH CAROLINA VISITOR CENTER

\* Historic Sites and State Parks are noted on the byway maps and referenced in the back of the book. Please contact them directly to find out their exact location or to receive visitor information.

# NCDOT PROGRAMS

## Highway Beautification

The NCDOT Wildflower Program creates colorful landscapes along the state's roadsides with flower plantings. The department's 14 highway divisions plant 200,000 daylilies annually and maintain 2,500 acres of wildflower seedbeds.

The program is supported through federal enhancement funds, citizen donations and proceeds from personalized license plates.

Motorists will also travel along thousands of miles of litter-free highways maintained by some 6,000 groups totaling 100,000 citizen volunteers in North Carolina's Adopt-A-Highway Program. The groups pick up about 4 million pounds of litter from 12,000 adopted roadside miles, saving taxpayers nearly \$4 million annually in roadside cleanup costs. Show support for the state's anti-litter efforts by purchasing a "No Litter" license plate through NCDOT's Division of Motor Vehicles. For more information about our highway beautification programs, call 1-800-331-5864 or visit [www.ncdot.org/~beautification](http://www.ncdot.org/~beautification).



NCDOT

N.C. Wildflower Program, Mount Airy

## Aviation

With more than 300 privately owned and 74 publicly owned airports, heliports and other landing areas, aviation is a vital part of the state's economy. More than 43 million passengers fly to and from North Carolina each year, and commercial and general aviation airports generate about \$12 billion annually for the state. For more

information on aviation in North Carolina, visit [www.ncdot.org/transit/aviation](http://www.ncdot.org/transit/aviation).

## Ferry

The ferry system includes 22 ferries that operate 365 days a year on seven routes along the coast. Ferries provide a vital link to many coastal residents and take visitors to unforgettable attractions such as lighthouses, pristine beaches, world-class fishing, romantic getaways, historic sites, kayaking, windsurfing and more. Reservations are available on several routes. For more information, call 1-800-BY-FERRY (293-3779) or visit [www.ncferry.org](http://www.ncferry.org).

## ***Public Transportation***

Getting North Carolinians where they want to go is the mission of the state's public transportation systems. Urban, rural and regional public transit systems provide mobility for citizens without a vehicle and for those who prefer to let someone else do the driving. At work in all 100 counties, public transportation provides access to employment, education, medical services, shopping and recreational activities. Safe and efficient public transportation means better mobility, continued economic growth, a cleaner environment and improved quality of life. For more information, visit [www.ncdot.org/transit/transitnet](http://www.ncdot.org/transit/transitnet).

## ***North Carolina's Amtrak Service***

With four passenger trains providing daily service to 12 cities and towns, North Carolina's Amtrak is your connection to Raleigh, Greensboro, Charlotte and many towns in between. The Winston-Salem Connector offers shuttle service between the High Point train station and downtown Winston-Salem. Local transit is available in most cities along the route.

For train schedules, fares and ticket information, call 1-800-USA-RAIL (872-7245) or visit [www.bytrain.org](http://www.bytrain.org). For best fares, book early.

## ***Bicycle and Pedestrian***

North Carolina has an extensive system of more than 5,000 miles of cross-state, regional and local mapped and signed bicycle routes along lightly traveled, scenic roads. These routes connect the state's towns and cities, as well as other points of interest. Call (919) 807-0777 or check

the list of available maps at [www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle](http://www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle).

## ***Governor's Highway Safety Program***

NCDOT's Governor's Highway Safety Program oversees initiatives related to highway safety, such as seat belt use, driving while impaired, speeding and aggressive driving. The office works closely with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, N.C. State Highway Patrol and numerous other state and local agencies. GHSP is best known for its public awareness campaigns, including "Click It or Ticket" and "Booze It & Lose It." For more information about GHSP and North Carolina's highway safety initiatives, go to [www.ncdot.org/programs/GHSP](http://www.ncdot.org/programs/GHSP).

## ***Rest Areas***

North Carolina's highway rest areas offer opportunities for convenient, brief stops and provide easy roadside access to public restrooms, drinking water and telephones seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Visitor centers and welcome centers are open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information about North Carolina's 60 rest areas, including photos, directions and amenities, is available at [www.ncdot.org/~restarea](http://www.ncdot.org/~restarea).

# RULES OF THE ROAD

## ***Move Over/ Fender Bender Laws***

Under the “Move Over” law, motorists are required to move over one lane, if possible, or reduce speed for stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights on the shoulder of the highway, including public service vehicles with amber lights. The “Fender-Bender” law requires motorists to move their vehicles to the shoulder of the road following minor, non-injury crashes. Failure to abide by the “Move Over” law could result in a fine of \$500. Violation of the “Fender-Bender” law could result in \$110 in fines and court costs.

## ***Cell Phone Use***

Drivers younger than 18 are prohibited from using a mobile telephone while driving except in the case of an emergency or when talking to a parent or spouse. Violators pay a \$25 fine, but receive no driver license points, insurance surcharge or court costs.

## ***Headlights***

Motorists are required to use their headlights from sunset to sunrise and when light conditions restrict visibility to 400 feet or less. Motorists are also required to use headlights while operating windshield wipers during inclement weather.

## ***Helmets***

Helmets are required by law when riding on a motorcycle or moped. Children up to age 16 are required to wear a helmet while riding a bicycle.

## ***Safety Belts and Child Passenger Restraints***

All vehicle occupants including those in the back seat are required to wear seat belts. Front seat passengers who violate the law will receive a \$25 fine. Back seat passengers will receive a \$10 fine. Children up to age 8 and weighing less than 80 pounds must be secured in a safety seat while riding in a vehicle. Older children must transition to booster seats before graduating to an adult safety belt. Drivers who fail to properly secure their children face \$125 in fines and court costs, as well as a two-point penalty on their driving record. For more information about seat belts and child restraints, visit [www.buckleupnc.org](http://www.buckleupnc.org).

## ***Traffic Crashes***

Traffic crashes involving death, personal injury or property damage of \$1,000 or more must be reported to the nearest law enforcement officer or agency. Failure to make this report may result in prosecution or driver license suspension.

## ***Driving While Impaired***

Motorists with a blood alcohol concentration at or greater than 0.08 percent are charged with driving while

impaired. Minimum punishment is a possible fine of up to \$200 and a possible term of imprisonment ranging from 24 hours to 30 days. Maximum punishment is a possible fine of up to \$4,000 and a possible term of imprisonment ranging from 30 days to two years. A person convicted of DWI will also have his or her license suspended by NCDOT's Division of Motor Vehicles for at least one year. Persons with a prior DWI conviction may be subject to punishment as a felon and their vehicle may be seized and sold.

### **Work Zone Safety**

Everyone plays a role in work zone safety, from professional truck drivers, everyday motorists and officers enforcing traffic laws to the workers on the roadway. As partners on the highway, NCDOT reminds motorists to "Drive Smart. Do Your Part" when traveling through the state's work zones.

More than 100 people have been killed in North Carolina work zones in the last three years, the majority of whom were motorists. It is important to remember that driving hazards may be present in work zones even if workers are not.

As conditions in a work zone can change quickly, it is especially important for motorists to pay attention and reduce speed through these areas. In North Carolina, the penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$250 plus three driver license points.

Following these work zone safety driving tips can help save lives, including your own:

- Stay alert;
- Expect the unexpected;

- Pay close attention;
- Don't tailgate;
- Don't speed;
- Be patient; and
- Limit distractions.

### **Travel Information**

Motorists can dial "511" for travel information 24 hours a day, seven days a week for an easy-to-use, voice-activated system. The toll-free service is available from landline and cellular phones anywhere in North Carolina (wireless air-time charges may apply). The system may also be accessed by dialing 1-877-511-INNC. (For TDD-TTY, call 711 and ask for 1-877-511-4662.) The 511 service provides information on highway construction, major traffic accidents, weather-related travel, North Carolina tourism, Blue Ridge Parkway travel, Great Smoky Mountains National Park travel and more. Travel information including road conditions, NCDOT traffic cameras, rail, transit and aviation links, and weather updates are also available online at [www.ncdot.org/traffictravel](http://www.ncdot.org/traffictravel).

When using 511, dial 88 at any time to switch from the voice response system to touch-tone features. Also, users familiar with 511 can give their answers before the questions are completed.

### **Mile Markers**

Mile markers are a valuable tool when referencing specific locations on North Carolina's highways. The small green signs with white numbers are located on highway shoulders. Most often, they are located at each mile along the highway, though in some urban areas they are

posted every tenth of a mile.

On north-south routes, mile markers begin at 0 at the furthest point south and increase heading north. On east-west routes, mile markers begin at 0 at the farthest point west and increase heading east. Exit numbers also correspond to the nearest mile marker to help motorists judge distance.

***N.C. State Highway Patrol***

To contact the N.C. State Highway Patrol while on the road, dial \*HP (\*47) from any cell phone. For more information, visit [www.nccrimecontrol.org](http://www.nccrimecontrol.org).

***Incident Management Assistance Patrol***

NCDOT sponsors the Incident Management Assistance Patrol, a statewide fleet of 60 drivers who monitor North Carolina’s most heavily traveled corridors, assisting stranded motorists and helping clear incidents on the highway. IMAP drivers are trained to respond to a variety of needs such as changing flat tires, providing gasoline and moving stalled vehicles out of travel lanes. IMAP assists disabled motorists, but also provides a greater service to the traveling public by preventing minor incidents from causing major congestion and delays, reducing the chance of secondary crashes.

***N.C. Amber Alert System***

The N.C. Amber Alert System is a cooperative effort between law enforcement, criminal justice, transportation and broadcast agencies. The system enlists the aid of the public to provide information to law enforcement

officials that may result in the safe recovery of an abducted or endangered child. When the Amber Alert System is activated, information about the child, abductor and/or the abductor’s vehicle can be distributed via radio, television and electronic highway signs as well as through 511, North Carolina’s travel information line and NCDOT’s travel information Web site [www.ncdot.org/traffictravel](http://www.ncdot.org/traffictravel). People with information that might help with the recovery of the child are instructed to dial \*HP (\*47) to reach the State Highway Patrol.

***N.C. Silver Alert System***

To help protect an increasing population of individuals that suffer from dementia or other cognitive impairment, North Carolina developed the Silver Alert program to quickly locate missing persons who may be endangered.

The Silver Alert program was designed to quickly disseminate descriptive information about the missing adult, so that citizens in the affected area can be on the lookout for the endangered person and notify local law enforcement with any relevant information. The program is a cooperative effort among local and state law enforcement and the N.C. Center for Missing Persons, with voluntary participation by radio and television broadcasters and NCDOT.



# CULTURAL RESOURCES

## **Historical Markers**

Throughout the state, more than 1,500 silver state highway historical markers describe important stories about North Carolina including the history behind duels, libraries, churches, railroads, American Indian tribes, Civil War battles, the civil rights movement and more. Each marker features Global Positioning Satellite coordinates to help orient you as you explore these stories.

## **N.C. Arts and Culture**

It is easy to combine arts and culture while traveling. A great place to start is "Exploring Cultural Heritage Online," at [www.ncecho.org](http://www.ncecho.org). The Web site is managed by the State Library of North Carolina. While traveling through North Carolina, look for brown highway signs that lead to 27 state historic sites and eight history museums. For more information on history, the arts and cultural travel, visit the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources Web site at [www.ncculture.com](http://www.ncculture.com).

## **Cultural Web-Based Driving Trails**

For interesting side trips off of N.C. Scenic Byways, consider visiting the following Web sites:

[www.ncculturetour.org](http://www.ncculturetour.org)

[www.cherokeeheritagetrails.org](http://www.cherokeeheritagetrails.org)

[www.homegrownhandmade.com](http://www.homegrownhandmade.com)

[www.blueridgemusic.org](http://www.blueridgemusic.org)

[www.ncliterarytrails.org](http://www.ncliterarytrails.org)

[www.discovercraftnc.org](http://www.discovercraftnc.org)



Historical markers on N.C. 82 near Falcon, along the Aversboro Battlefield Scenic Byway

# BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

The Blue Ridge Parkway is often referred to as the original “scenic byway.” The parkway’s 252 miles in North Carolina are recognized as an “All American Road” by the Federal Highway Administration. The route provides spectacular mountain and valley vistas, quiet pastoral scenes, sparkling waterfalls, and colorful flower and foliage displays.



N.C. Travel & Tourism

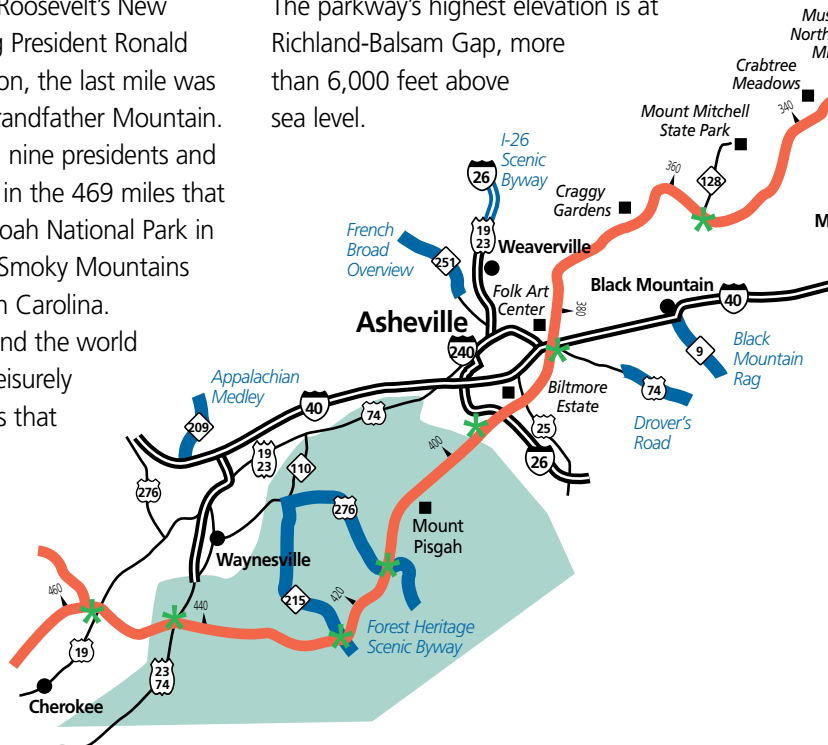
Blue Ridge Parkway

Construction began in 1935 under President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal program. During President Ronald Reagan’s administration, the last mile was completed around Grandfather Mountain. An effort of 52 years, nine presidents and \$130 million resulted in the 469 miles that connect the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina.





Visitors from around the world enjoy the parkway’s leisurely drive and scenic views that provide a temporary escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. The parkway offers various cultural, natural, historic and

recreational opportunities. The internationally recognized drive blends landscape architecture and engineering, while protecting and proclaiming mountain culture.

Activities such as camping, picnicking, hiking, boating, fishing and sightseeing are available along the route. Along the way are five campgrounds for overnight visitors, as well as 72 trails and 25 tunnels for exploring. The parkway’s highest elevation is at Richland-Balsam Gap, more than 6,000 feet above sea level.



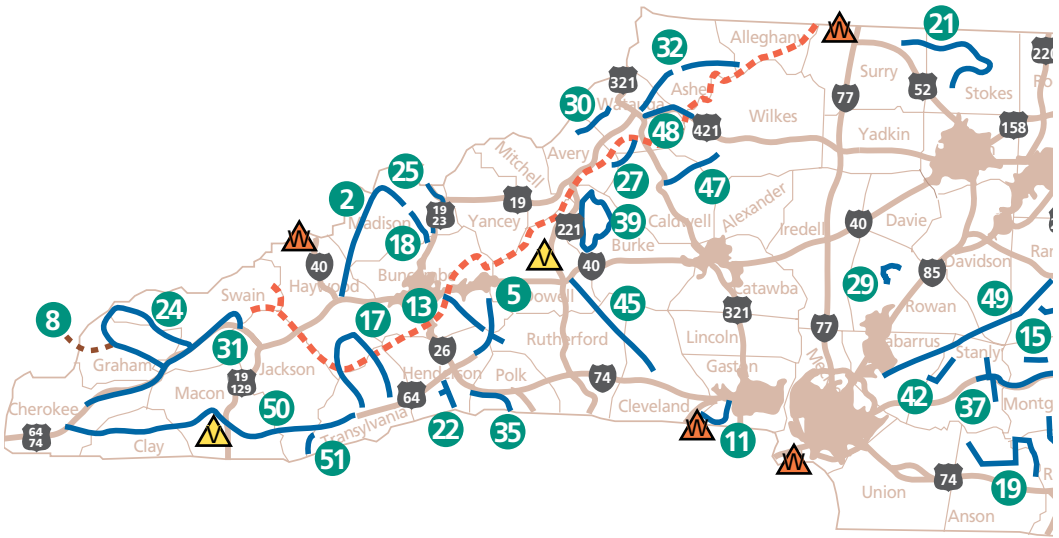
## LEGEND

- Point of Interest
- City or Town
-  NC Scenic Byway
-  Blue Ridge Parkway
-  Exit along Parkway
-  Distance Marker  
(mileage begins in Virginia)



**For more information on the Blue Ridge Parkway, contact the National Park Service's Blue Ridge Parkway Office at (828) 298-0398 or visit [www.nps.gov/blri](http://www.nps.gov/blri).**

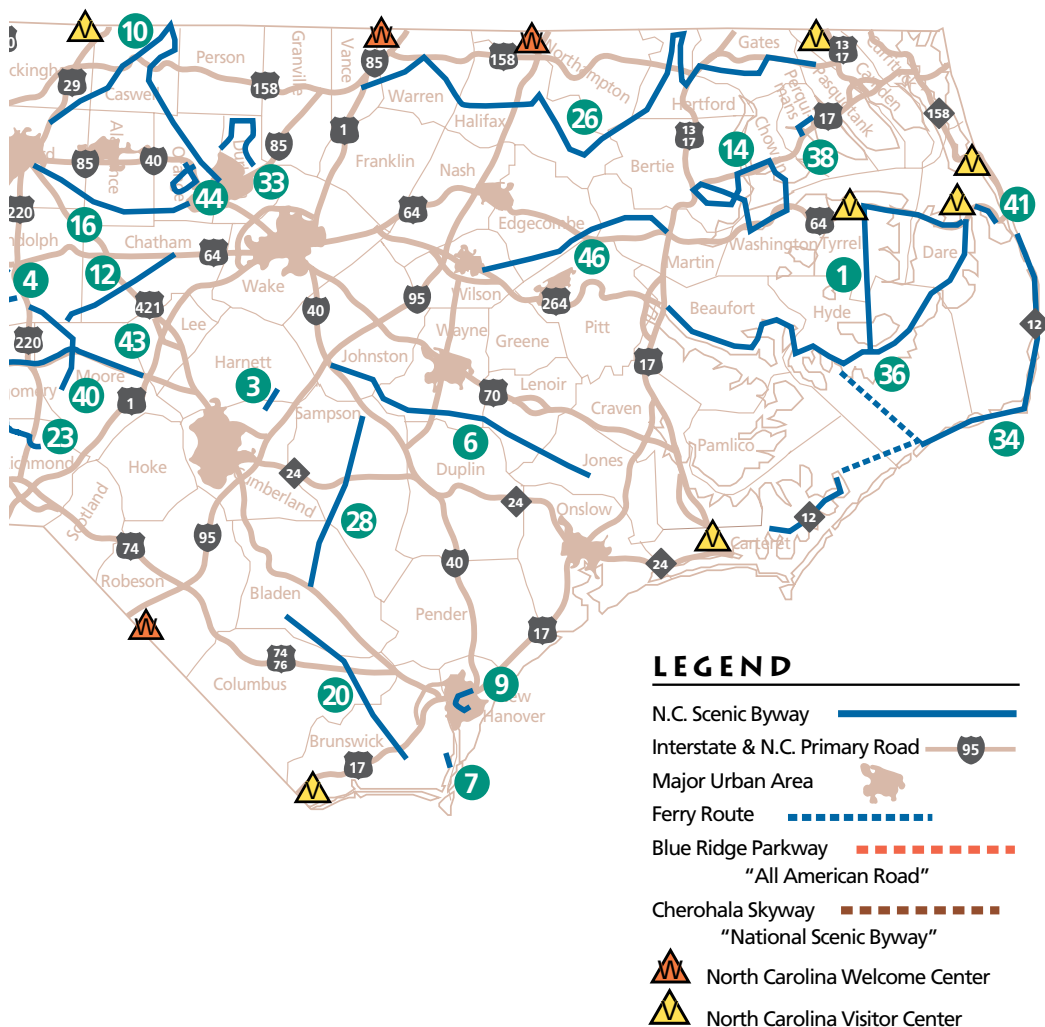
**To find out more about the nation's other All American Roads and National Scenic Byways, visit [www.byways.org](http://www.byways.org).**



Click on green location dots to take you to specific Byway.

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# WATERFALL BYWAY

The Waterfall Byway winds 98 miles through five of the state's westernmost counties and earns its name from the 200 waterfalls that surround the route. In fact, Transylvania County, where the byway begins, is known as "Land of the Waterfalls" for the many waterfalls and trout streams in the area.

**Beginning at the intersection of U.S. 64 and N.C. 215 near Rosman, travel west along U.S. 64 and cross the French Broad River,** whose name means "racing waters" in Cherokee. **Continue on U.S. 64 West seven miles to the curve where U.S. 64 crosses the Toxaway River at Toxaway Falls.**

The beautiful Toxaway Falls are on the left with Lake Toxaway on the right. Be careful not to park on the shoulder of the road as it is unsafe for both motorists and pedestrians. Nearby local merchants provide limited parking for motorists to enjoy the falls. **From Toxaway Falls, travel three miles into the Sapphire Valley resort area. Also, pass Fairfield and Sapphire lakes, both privately owned, and into Jackson County before crossing the Horse Pasture River, 1.5**

**miles east of Cashiers.**

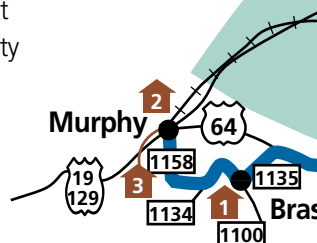
The town of Cashiers, located at the intersection of U.S. 64 and N.C. 107, is about 10 miles from Toxaway Falls. Pronounced *cash-ers* by locals, the town is one of the oldest resort communities settled by Low Country South Carolinians who wanted to get away from the coastal summer heat and humidity. South Carolina Gov. and Confederate Gen. Wade Hampton's summer home, "High Hampton," was located south of Cashiers and is still a favored resort. The headwaters of the Chattooga River are within the town's limits.

**From Cashiers, travel four miles to Cowee Gap. From the gap, at the headwaters of the Cullasaja River, it is eight winding miles into Macon County and the town of Highlands,** the highest incorporated community on the East Coast. **Follow U.S. 64 through this quaint resort town.**



NCDOT

Cullasaja Falls



Founded in 1875, Highlands was located here because it lies at the intersection of imaginary map lines formed from Chicago to Savannah and from Baltimore to New Orleans. Highlands was designed by Charles Hutchins and Samuel T. Kelsey of Kansas, who also designed the resort community of Linville.

**Cross Lake Sequoyah on the outskirts of Highlands and continue for two miles to the 120-foot drop of Bridal Veil Falls.** The water from this fall flows into the Cullasaja River to the south. Use the provided parking area just west of the falls to enjoy beauty from either side or underneath, where the old highway ran. Nearby Dry Falls so named because visitors can walk underneath the roaring water without getting wet. The U.S. Forest Service provides a parking area for visitors to explore and enjoy this waterfall.

**The byway enters the Cullasaja Gorge six miles west of Dry Falls.** The Cullasaja River formed the gorge as it flowed west into the Little Tennessee

River. The Forest Service has designated a portion of this route as the national Mountain Waters Scenic Byway. **Four miles from Dry Falls is Cullasaja Falls.**

Located on the left heading west, this impressive cascade drops 310 feet in one-half mile. The drop may be difficult to see, so look carefully behind the trees toward the lower part of the gorge. While in the gorge, catch a glimpse of the Cullasaja River below as well as views of the Smoky Mountains and the Pisgah and Nantahala national forests. Observant visitors may spot falcons, which are known to inhabit the trees along the gorge. **The community of Gneiss, named for the metamorphic rock that abounds in this area, is two miles past Cullasaja Falls.**

**The Cullasaja Gorge ends about five miles from Gneiss in the Cullasaja community. From this small town, travel 2.5 miles to the U.S. 23/441 interchange with U.S. 64 in Franklin, the Macon County seat. This town is best known for the treaty council held here between Sir Alexander Cuming and the**





Cherokee Indians in 1730. The Cherokee were defeated in 1761 by a force of settlers, Chickasaws and Creeks. The site of an early American Indian village, Nikwasi, is marked by a mound in Franklin.

**Follow U.S. 64 West/U.S. 23/441 South for 7.5 miles to the community of Cartoogechaye,** (pronounced *car-too-gi-chay*). The nearby mountains are part of the Nantahala range in the Nantahala National Forest. **After about four miles, cross Winding Stair Gap,** one of the early western passages along the Appalachian Trail.

**Continue two miles through the community of Rainbow Springs and then nearly two miles to Black Gap on the Macon/Clay County line. This portion takes motorists 10 miles along the ridge lines of the Chunky Gal Mountains,** where there are a number of scenic overlooks **before the byway passes through Shooting Creek.**

American Indian lore tells of an overweight maiden from nearby who ran away to get married without her father's permission. The dismayed thinner maidens of the tribe gave her the nickname "Chunky Gal."

**Shooting Creek is 8.5 miles from Hayesville,** the Clay County seat. **Four miles east of Hayesville the byway passes Lake Chatuge,** which is known as the crown jewel of the Tennessee Valley Authority lakes. The water is now part of the Hiawasee River. Hayesville was named in 1891 for the town's founder, George Hayes. Fort Hembree, one of the gathering places for the Cherokee who were forced to leave this part of the country for Oklahoma on the "Trail of Tears," is located in town.

**Continue for three miles, turn left onto Settawig Road (S.R. 1135) and follow it for 2.5 miles toward Brasstown.** While in Brasstown, visit the John C. Campbell Folk School, where visitors learn trades such as pottery, weaving and blacksmithing. **From Settawig Road briefly turn right onto Old U.S. 64 (S.R. 1100) before turning left onto Brasstown Road (S.R. 1134). Follow Brasstown Road briefly before turning right onto Harshaw Road (S.R. 1558). Follow Harshaw Road for 6.5 miles where the route ends in Murphy at the intersection with U.S. 19/129.**

Murphy, the Cherokee County seat, is the site of Fort Butler, a frontier fort in the early 1800s and a temporary stockade for Cherokee along the "Trail of Tears." Located at the junction of the Hiawasee and Valley rivers, the town was also an early trading post. Additionally, it serves as the southern terminus of the Great Smoky Mountain Railway. Because the route follows winding mountain roads, travel time may be slow along the route and may also vary by season.

The Nantahala Byway (pg. 21) begins north of Murphy in the town of Marble. The Forest Heritage Scenic Byway (pg. 30) ties in at the beginning of this route.



**Length: 98 miles**  
**Drive Time: 3.5 hours**  
**Counties: Cherokee,**  
**Clay, Jackson,**  
**Macon and**  
**Transylvania**



**Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and it is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**

# NANTAHALA BYWAY

The Nantahala Byway's southern terminus is in the Cherokee County town of Marble, founded in 1911 and so named because it is near the state's largest marble deposit. This marble, in addition to other mineral resources found in this area, is of such high quality that it was used extensively at Arlington National Cemetery. **From**

**Marble, leave town and take U.S.**

**19/74/129 east** through eight miles of farming valley to Andrews. The valley has rich soil, which was deposited by the Valley River that flows on the valley's eastern side toward the Hiawasee River in Murphy.

**In Andrews, turn right onto U.S. 19 Business** and drive through this early 20th century mountain town that is named for Alexander Boyd Andrews, who founded the Western North Carolina Railroad. **The byway rejoins U.S. 19/74/129 north of town where the road becomes two lanes.**

From Andrews, **travel seven miles to the community of Topton.** The Indian Lakes Scenic Byway (pg. 26) intersects at this point and runs north on U.S. 129. **For the next 20 miles, the byway passes through the Nantahala Gorge** by first crossing the Nantahala River. At the Clay/Macon County line, look for the 360-foot Camp Branch Falls just before entering

the community of Nantahala, founded in 1882. This is where the gorge's true nature begins. Notice that the U.S. Forest

Service's Mountain Waters Scenic Byway merges with this byway just prior to Nantahala.

The Nantahala Gorge was called the "Land of the Midday Sun." From this phrase, the Cherokee Indians

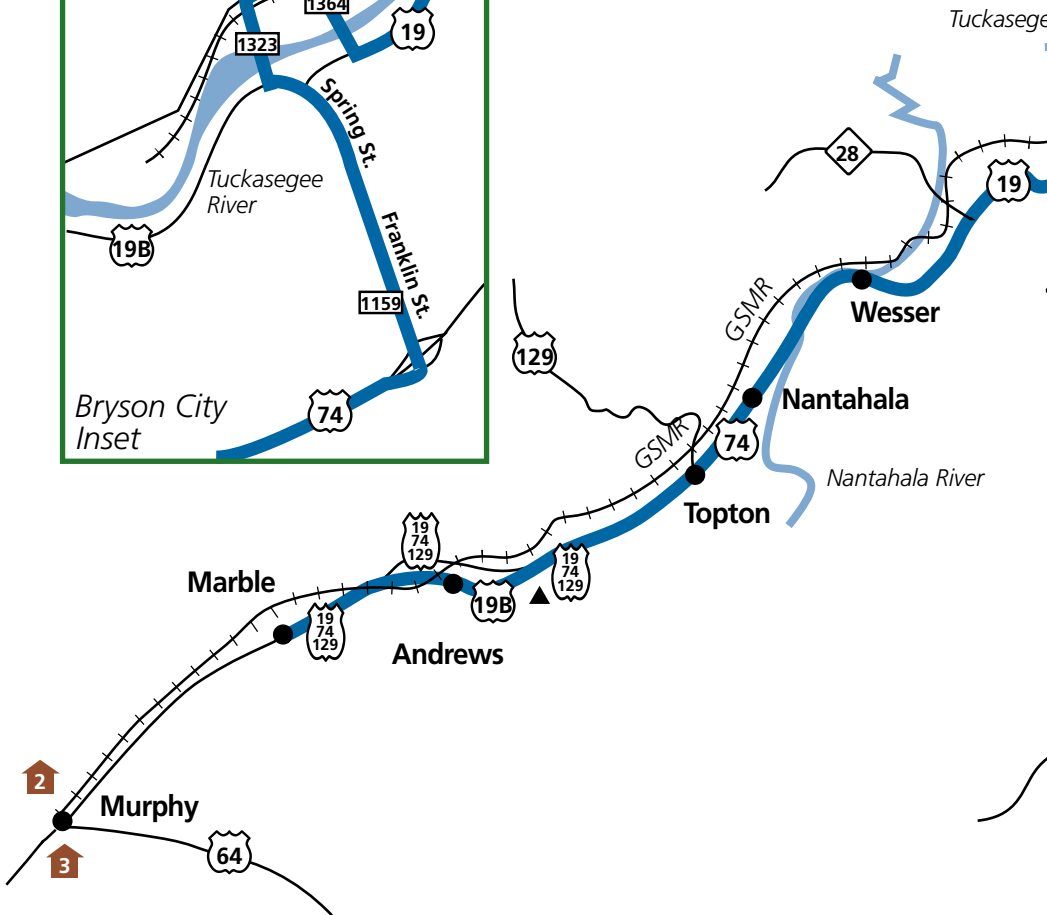
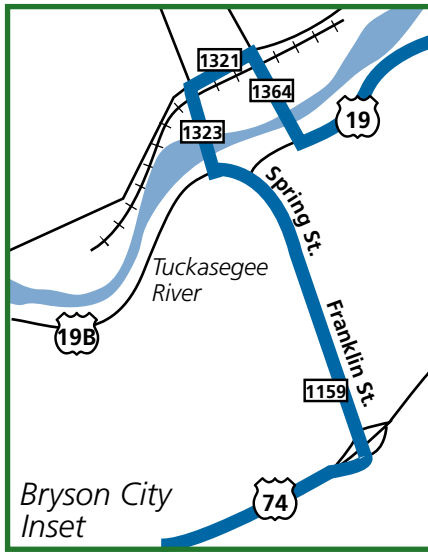
derived the name *Nantahala* because of its depth and steep walls. It is a world-class whitewater rafting location. During the warmer months, many rafting companies provide tours, while kayaking and canoeing enthusiasts enjoy the river well into the winter. Occasionally, slalom gates are visible for races held on the river. For those who prefer a less energetic ride, the main boat drop point near the southern end of the gorge provides the calmest water.

The byway occasionally provides glimpses of the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad, which snakes through the gorge paralleling U.S. 19/74. The railroad offers visitors a different perspective of the gorge. The railroad operates daily from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., and reservations are recommended.

**Continue traveling seven miles through the gorge to the community of Wesser,** named for a hunter who lived here. At Wesser, the Nantahala River no



Whitewater Rafting on Nantahala River



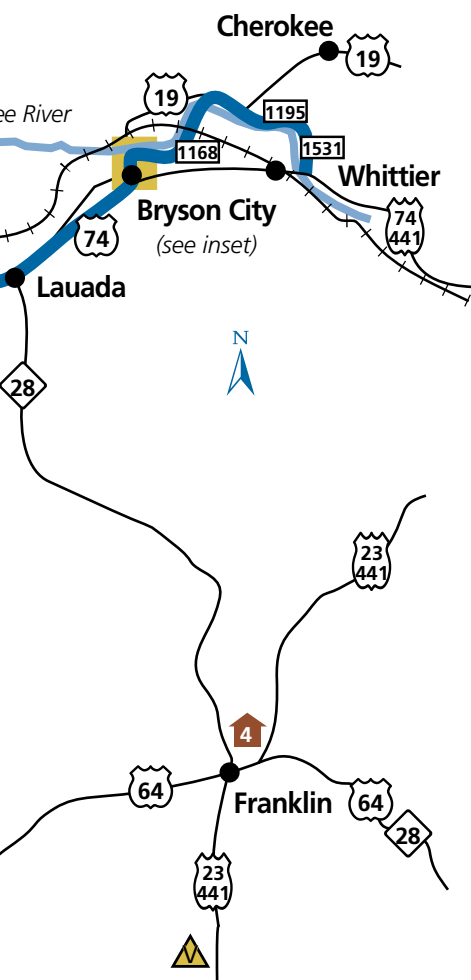
longer parallels the road. **The byway crosses the Little Tennessee River two miles north of Wesser before entering Lauada one mile later.**

From Lauada, the byway continues four miles on the four-lane divided highway portion of U.S. 19/74 to the second Bryson City exit (Exit 67). Bryson City was founded in 1887 and is the Swain County seat. It sits in a bowl formed by the Tuckasegee River and the Cowee

Mountain Range.

From the exit, turn left onto Franklin Street (S.R. 1159), also known as Spring Street and Bennet Road, and follow for about one-half mile to the stoplight at U.S. 19. Proceed onto U.S. 19 South (Main Street) and travel a short distance to Slope Street (S.R. 1323). Bear right onto Slope Street, cross the Tuckasegee River and turn right onto Gibson Avenue,





also known as Bryson Walk (S.R. 1321). Turn right again onto Everett Street (S.R. 1364) at the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad station.

In Bryson City, notice the monuments for Tsali, a Cherokee warrior who was executed in 1838 for resisting the removal of his Cherokee people from the Southern Appalachian Region, as well as Yonaguska, chief of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee who lived here in 1839.

From Everett Street, turn left at the Swain County Courthouse onto U.S. 19 North (Main Street). Follow about two miles and turn right onto Hyatt Creek Road (S.R. 1168). For the next three miles, follow Hyatt Creek Road as it parallels the Tuckasegee River just above its banks. **At the stop sign, turn left to continue on Hyatt Creek Road.**

Here, the byway passes through portions of tribal lands of the Eastern Band of Cherokee, also called the Qualla Boundary. *Qualla* is a Cherokee word meaning "old woman" after an old Cherokee woman who lived on these lands. Established in 1838, it is the largest reservation east of the Mississippi with more than 63,000 acres.

**Turn right onto U.S. 19 North after crossing the Tuckasegee River. Continue on U.S. 19 for about a mile, then turn right onto Old U.S. 19 (S.R. 1195), and cross the Oconaluftee River just above its junction with the Tuckasegee River. Follow Old U.S. 19 for nearly two miles into Jackson County where the state road number changes to 1531. The byway ends one mile later in the town of Whittier at the U.S. 74 intersection.** The Waterfall Byway (pg. 18) is located to the south.



**Length: 43 miles**  
**Drive Time: 1.5 hours**  
**Counties: Cherokee, Graham, Jackson and Swain**

# CHEROHALA SKYWAY

The Cherohala Skyway is a national scenic byway often compared to the Blue Ridge Parkway because of its scenic attractions

and natural topography. The skyway serves as a connector between the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee and the Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina, thus the name *Cherohala*. The

route is located in rural western Graham County and is designated as N.C. 143.

American Indians first occupied Graham County before the progression of settlers reached the territory in the early 1830s. Early homesteaders followed American Indian paths and game trails into this land.

**The route is accessible by driving on N.C. 143 West from Robbinsville for 12 miles. A scenic overlook and sign mark the beginning of the scenic byway.** An information kiosk at this scenic overlook offers motorists an opportunity to enjoy the tranquil view while learning about the development of the skyway and its recreational opportunities.

Also at this overlook, visitors can view the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, which was dedicated on July 30, 1936, to the late author of the poem "Trees." This pristine

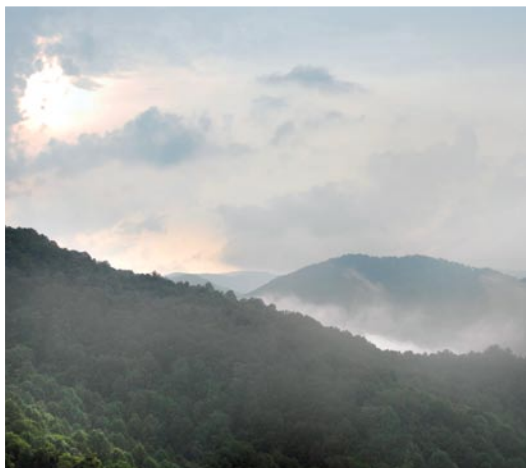
forest, one of the finest stands of its type in America, includes poplar, hemlock and oak. Some tulip-poplars have grown in

excess of 100 feet high and 20 feet in circumference. More than 100 species of trees can be seen here while hiking on more than 60 miles of trails. Contact the U.S. Forest Service or the Cheoah Ranger Station for further

information on the forest, the adjoining Slickrock Wilderness Area and nearby Lake Santeetlah.

**The byway begins at Santeetlah Gap and ascends along Cedar Top Mountain.** This peak joins with Little Huckleberry Knob, Hooper's Bald, Laurel Top and John's Knob to form the backbone of the byway. **The route weaves westward through these southern Appalachian Mountains.** They are considered to be some of the oldest in the world, formed more than 200 million years ago. Many overlooks, trail access points and pull-offs are along the drive. Motorists should be alert for both pedestrians and bicyclists along the route.

Hardwood and coniferous trees abound throughout these mountains thanks to the U.S. Forest Service. Following the Civil



NCDOT

Cherohala

War, large lumber companies moved in and systematically cleared large swaths of forest. In 1911, the federal government began to acquire and protect these lands. The forests' destruction is evidenced by the number of balds along the route. These bare, grassy, rocky and partially barren knobs mark some of the highest points along the route. Hooper's Bald, at 5,429 feet, is the highest spot along the skyway.

Hooper's Bald was once the location of a private hunting preserve stocked with buffalo, wild boar, elk, mule-deer, bear, wild turkeys and pheasants. The gameland preserve failed, but the wild boars still in the area attest to its presence. **From Hooper's Bald travel 5.5 miles to the Beech Gap Overlook at the Tennessee state line, where the skyway ends.**

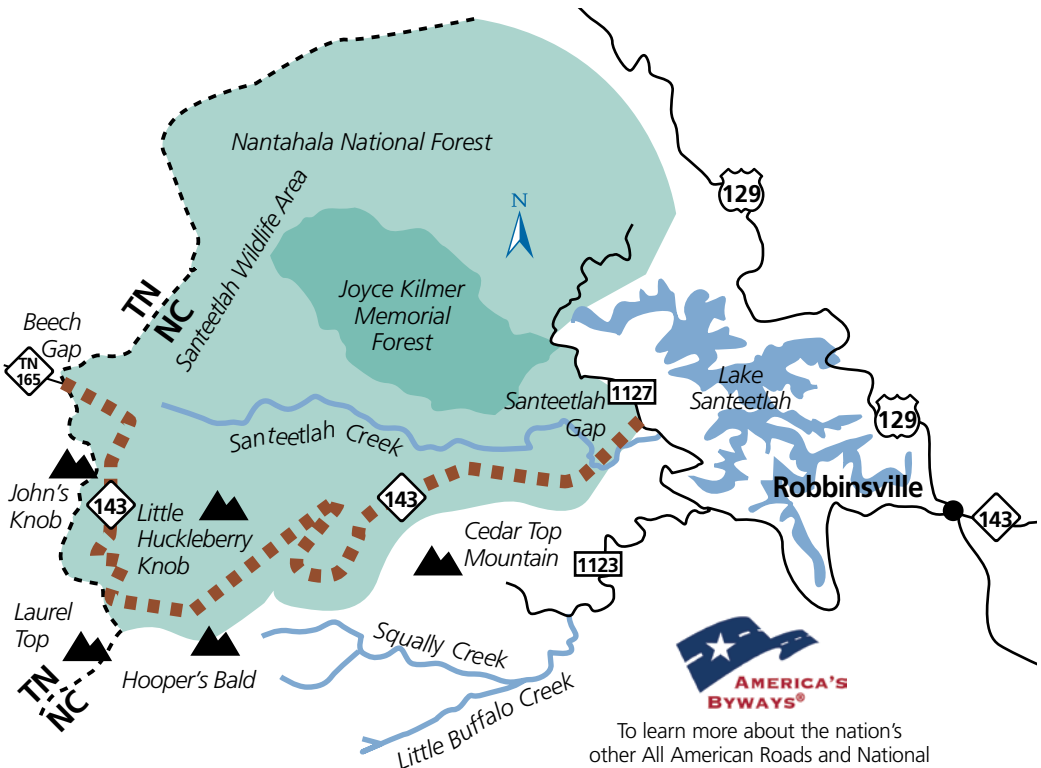
Motorists may turn around at this overlook or continue into Tennessee on S.R 165. The Indian Lakes Scenic Byway (pg. 26) is located nearby.



**Length: 20 miles**  
**Drive Time: 45 minutes**  
**County: Graham**



**Note: Tractor-trailer trucks are prohibited on this road and the route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



To learn more about the nation's other All American Roads and National Scenic Byways, visit the U.S. Department of Transportation's Web site at [www.byways.org/](http://www.byways.org/).

# INDIAN LAKES SCENIC BYWAY

The Indian Lakes Scenic Byway takes its name from the many lakes along the route with Indian names. **Begin traveling from the byway's**

**northern end at the intersection of U.S. 19/74 and N.C. 28 near Almond in Swain County.**

**Travel along N.C. 28 North to Almond,**

which was incorporated in 1905 and is

located just north of the Nantahala Gorge.

**Leaving Almond, cross the Nantahala River and travel through Calf Pen Gap and the Stecoah Panther Divide into Graham County. Follow N.C. 28 to Fontana Village.**

On the 23-mile drive from Almond to Fontana Village, take advantage of the many overlooks with parking for roadside picnics and enjoy views of rural Western North Carolina. Numerous creeks along the byway feed into the Little Tennessee River. The river was discovered in 1540 by Spanish Explorer Hernando DeSoto as the first tributary of the Mississippi River. The byway then passes through the Stecoah community.

Along the way, watch for large pipes shooting up the sides of mountains. These surge pipes take water overflow up the mountain for storage when overflow gates

are closed at the hydroelectric dams seen along the route. When water levels are low, water in the surge pipes is released

and flows down the mountains to turn turbines in the dams' generator houses.

There have been two other Fontana villages near the existing site. The first was built as a logging camp in the 1800s and is now



NCDOT

Cheoah Dam and Powerhouse

buried by Fontana Lake. The second was built for copper miners at the turn of the 20th century. The current village was built for the 6,000 workers who constructed the Fontana Dam and is now a resort community. The dam, located about two miles from the village, was built by the Tennessee Valley Authority in response to the federal government's need "for aid in the development of atomic power." Completed in 1945, it was the fourth-highest hydroelectric dam in the world and the highest in the Eastern United States. Fontana Lake is the largest of the TVA lakes, covering 10,530 acres.

**Beware of sharp, hairpin turns leaving Fontana Village for Tapoco.**

The stop sign at the intersection of N.C. 28 and U.S. 129 marks the beginning of what is known locally as "The Tail of the Dragon." The name refers to the curvature

of U.S. 129 when looked at on a map as it heads from this point west to Maryville, Tenn. **Turn left on U.S. 129 South and past the Cheoah Dam**, where scenes from “The Fugitive,” starring Harrison Ford, were filmed.

Tapoco stands for the Tallassee Power Co. and was built in 1930 to house the builders of the Cheoah Dam. Tallassee is a nearby town in Tennessee. *Cheoah* is derived from the Cherokee word for otter.

Construction of the Cheoah Dam, which was built of hand-cut stone and covered with a layer of concrete, began in 1917 by the Aluminum Company of America. At that time, it was the highest overflow dam in the world and had the world’s largest turbines. The waters of the Little Tennessee River and the Cheoah River meet at this dam. A large pipe, which crosses the road just past the lake dam, is part of an aqueduct connecting Cheoah Lake to Santeetlah Lake.

**The byway continues on U.S. 129 alongside the Cheoah River.** This river has a lower water volume due to nearby hydroelectric dams. **From Cheoah Dam, travel 16 miles to the Graham County seat of Robbinsville**, founded in 1843. The Cherohala Skyway (pg. 24) is located just west of Robbinsville on N.C. 143. Along the way look for the Santeetlah Dam at Lake Santeetlah on the right. *Santeetlah* comes from an Indian word meaning “blue waters.” The mountains to the west are part of the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest. This 3,849-acre forest was dedicated to the poet Joyce Kilmer in 1936 and contains pristine stands of oak, yellow poplar, basswood and sycamore.

Because of the mountain ranges surrounding this area, Graham County is one of the most isolated areas in the Eastern United States. The grave of Junaluska, a Cherokee chief and warrior who saved Andrew Jackson’s life at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in the 1812 Creek War, is located in Robbinsville.

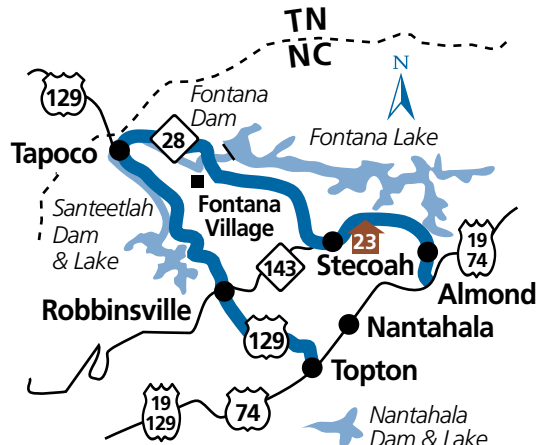
**Just after Robbinsville, cross Tulula Creek**, meaning “cry of the frog” in Cherokee, which joins with Sweetwater Creek to form the Cheoah River. **Continue along U.S. 129 for 12 miles to the intersection with U.S. 19/74. The route ends just south of the Nantahala Gorge at Tipton in Cherokee County.** The Indian Lakes Scenic Byway connects with the Nantahala Scenic Byway (pg. 21) at both ends.



**Length: 60 miles**  
**Drive Time: Two hours**  
**Counties: Swain, Graham and Cherokee**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



# WHITEWATER WAY

Whitewater Way provides motorists with access to some of the most beautiful waterfalls in the Eastern United States. The route gets its name from Whitewater Falls, which at 411 feet, is the highest waterfall east of the Rockies.

**The byway begins at the intersection of U.S. 64 and N.C. 281 in the village of Sapphire.** This is also the intersection of the Waterfall Byway (pg. 18). This quaint mountain town is named for the intense blue sky and water observed here, as well as for the gems found in this area. **Follow N.C. 281 South for two miles** before reaching the access area for Horse Pasture River and Falls.

At the access area, trails lead visitors along the river to a series of falls including Horse Pasture, Drift, Rainbow, Stairway and Mist. Drift Falls is a popular place for sliding and caution is recommended. Rainbow Falls is 150 feet high and has a back spray of mist that shows a rainbow when illuminated by the sun. Stairway Falls has seven steps averaging 10 feet each, while Windy Falls is known as an ominous place of swirling spray. Footing can become treacherous along the trail. Close observers may spot a rare and beautiful plant called

Shortia, which is only found in this area and in Japan. It grows from a slender single stem and blooms white or pink in late March or early April.

**Continuing along N.C. 281, the byway passes through the Nantahala National Forest.** First established by Congress in 1911, this forest now contains nearly 1.4 million acres of Western North Carolina. Large stands of hemlock and spruce are found along this portion of byway. In the spring, native azaleas, rhododendrons and mountain laurels light up the understories of

these trees. Some privately owned land lies along the route where a mix of homes, farms and craft shops can be seen.

**About 8.5 miles from Sapphire, the byway passes the entrance to Whitewater Falls Scenic Area.** Follow the signs to the trailhead parking lot and take a five-minute stroll to the falls overlook. Additional trails lead farther along the falls or deeper into the gorge.

**Once back on N.C. 281, it is less than a mile through a brief portion of Jackson County to the South Carolina line, where the byway ends.** Motorists may want to backtrack along the byway or continue into South Carolina along S.C. 130.



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Whitewater Falls

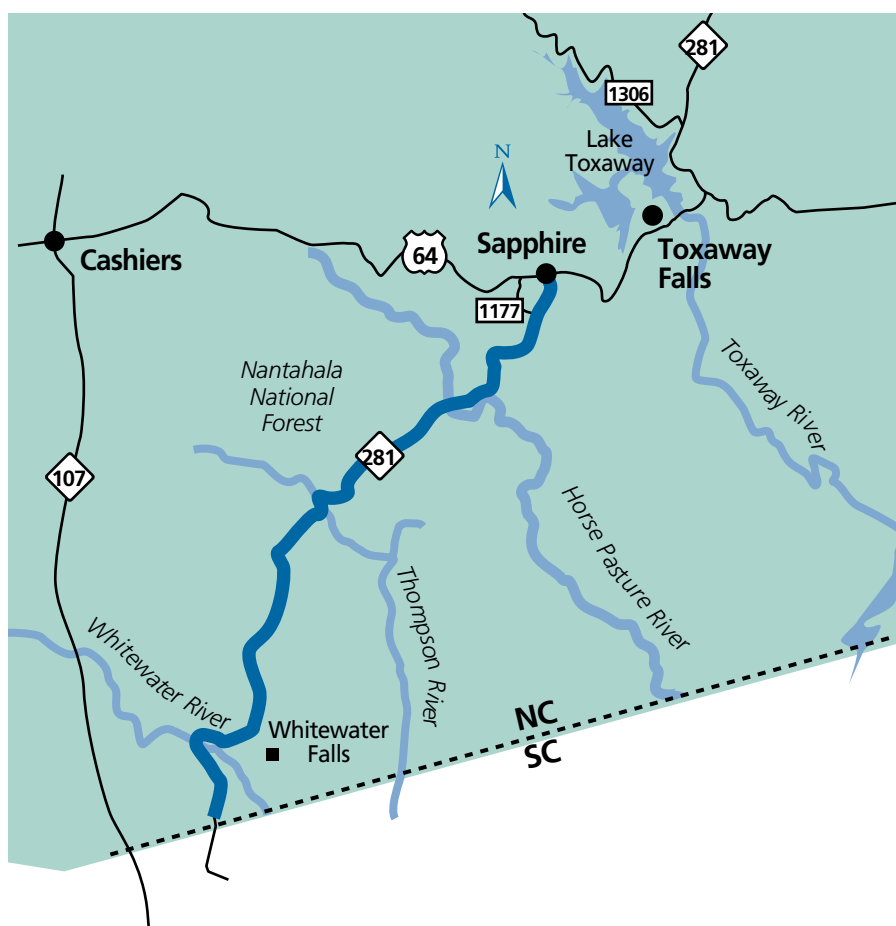




**Length: 9 miles**  
**Drive Time: 20 minutes**  
**Counties: Transylvania and Jackson**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



# FOREST HERITAGE SCENIC BYWAY

The Forest Heritage Scenic Byway allows motorists to explore North Carolina's rich forestlands. **Begin following the**

**byway from its northern end by traveling U.S. 276 North from the U.S. 64/N.C. 280 intersection near Brevard.**

Established in 1861, Brevard is the Transylvania County seat and was named for Ephriam Brevard, who drafted the Mecklenburg Resolves of 1775. A pair of stone pillars built to honor Transylvania County residents who served in World War I lies at

the beginning of the byway. They also mark the entrance to the Pisgah National Forest, which was established in 1916 and encompasses more than one million acres. A U.S. Forest Service information center is located about two miles from the pillars.

West of the information center is the Pisgah Forest National Fish Hatchery, which raises trout to be released in mountain streams. **Just past the hatchery on U.S. 276 is the breathtaking 85-foot Looking Glass Falls.** A pull-off is provided for visitors to safely enjoy the view. The falls are named for the mountain above Looking Glass Rock. Its monolithic granite face gleams like a mirror from the water

seeping out of the mountain across the stone. **Travel 2.5 miles north and pass Sliding Rock Falls.**

In the summer, many visitors enjoy a cool slide down the rock into a pool under the supervision of lifeguards. A bathhouse provides a place to change clothes.

The Cradle of Forestry is on the right, three miles from Sliding Rock. It is the birthplace of scientific forestry and forestry education through the work of Dr. Carl A. Schenck in 1898. Dr. Schenck was the forest supervisor for George Vanderbilt's



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Biltmore Forest School near Brevard

100,000-acre Biltmore Forest and founded the first forestry school in the United States at Biltmore, near Asheville.

Near the Cradle of Forestry is the entrance to the Pink Beds, an upland bog with a dense growth of pink blooming rhododendrons and laurels. **About four miles from the Pink Beds, is the first of two Blue Ridge Parkway crossings.** The first crossing is at Wagon Road Gap. The gap was named for the vehicles that crossed the mountain on the trail from Brevard towards the Pigeon River Gorge and Tennessee. To the left is the Shining Rock Wilderness. Accessible only by foot trails, this primitive area is a unique natural

treasure. **From here, continue along U.S. 276 North for 14 miles following the East Fork of the Pigeon River through rural mountain villages and farlands to the community of Bethel.**

The nearby community of Woodrow, just north of Bethel, was named for President Woodrow Wilson. **Turn left at the stoplight onto N.C. 215 and follow the West Fork of the Pigeon River 18 miles until the byway reaches the second crossing of the Blue Ridge Parkway at Beech Gap.** Along this portion of N.C. 215, pass by more mountain farms and numerous streams and waterfalls. **Six miles from Woodrow, is a local reservoir, Lake Logan.** The community of Sunburst, located along its shores, gets its name from the swiftness of the sun as it rises over Cold Mountain to announce the morning. This is the fictional setting of the book and movie "Cold Mountain."

**About 8.5 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway is the Balsam Grove community near Balsam Lake, which feeds into the French Broad River.** The river was named for the French who inhabited the territory during the 18th century. **The last eight miles of the byway parallel the North Fork of the French Broad River. The route ends at the intersection of N.C. 215 with U.S. 64 near Rosman.**

To follow the Waterfall Byway (pg. 18) travel along U.S. 64 West from this point, or turn left

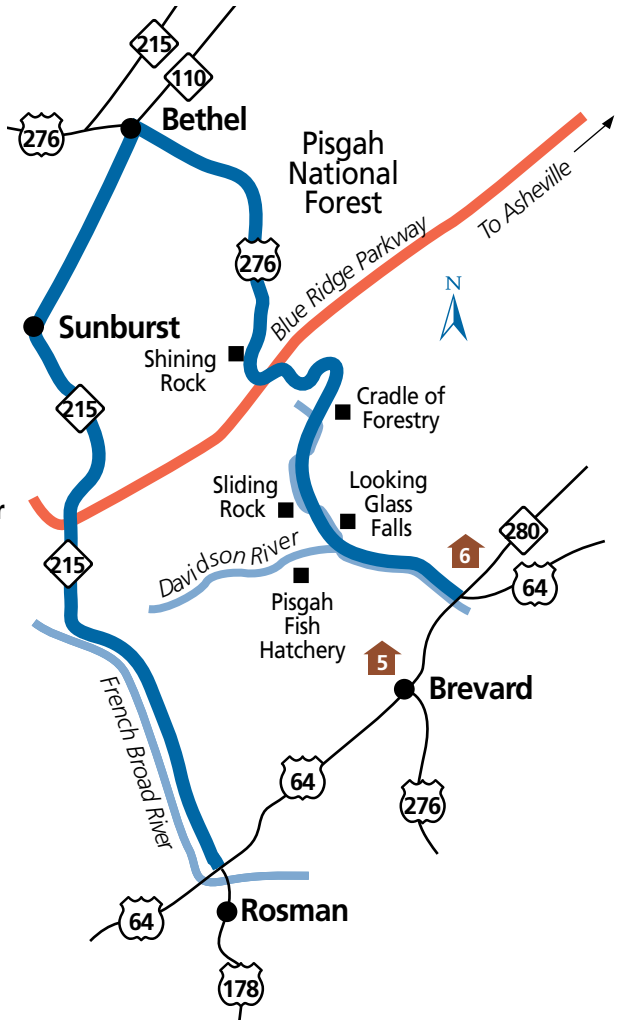
and follow the U.S. Forest Service byway north to Brevard.



**Length: 65 miles**  
**Drive Time: Two hours**  
**Counties: Haywood, Transylvania and Jackson**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



# APPALACHIAN MEDLEY

The Appalachian Medley engages the senses and recalls the past. It has been appropriately named for the rich history of local music, which is illustrated by the rise and fall of the beautiful hills along the byway — a melody of greatest proportions.

**The byway begins on N.C. 209 at Exit 24 on I-40 near Lake Junaluska and Waynesville. Begin following the route by traveling north along N.C. 209. After 1.3 miles, the byway crosses the Pigeon River,** which derives its name from the large flocks of pigeons that once lived along its banks. **After crossing the river, continue two miles to Crabtree.** Beginning a half mile after Crabtree, the byway is closely bordered by the Pisgah National Forest. This forest covers 12 counties and more than one million acres in North Carolina. Also, it is the birthplace of the scientific study of American forestry. For more information about the Pisgah National Forest, contact the U.S. Forest Service. (Contact information is provided on pg. 168.)

**Five miles from Crabtree, the byway veers right near Fines Creek.**

The creek was named for a scout who was buried in its icy waters. The scout's brother placed his body in the creek to preserve it until the spring thaw. However, when the brother came to retrieve the body, it was nowhere to be found.

**The byway enters Madison County at**

**Betsey's Gap four miles after crossing Fines Creek.** Hebo Mountain can be seen to the south and Pug Knob to the north.

The byway, from this point north, is escorted by Spring Creek. **The community of Luck is less than five miles up the road,** and as the locals say, "with Luck comes Trust." Trust, a small community with a general store and cafe, is 1.5 miles past Luck. Guests are welcome to stop in St. Jude's Chapel of Hope.

**Following N.C. 209,** the surrounding landscape opens into a picturesque valley. **Max Patch Mountain is on the left.** The Appalachian Trail lies across the top of this mountain bald. **Travel a little more than four miles to the Rocky Bluff Recreation Area,** which has picnic facilities, restrooms, campsites and hiking trails.

**Hot Springs is about three miles**

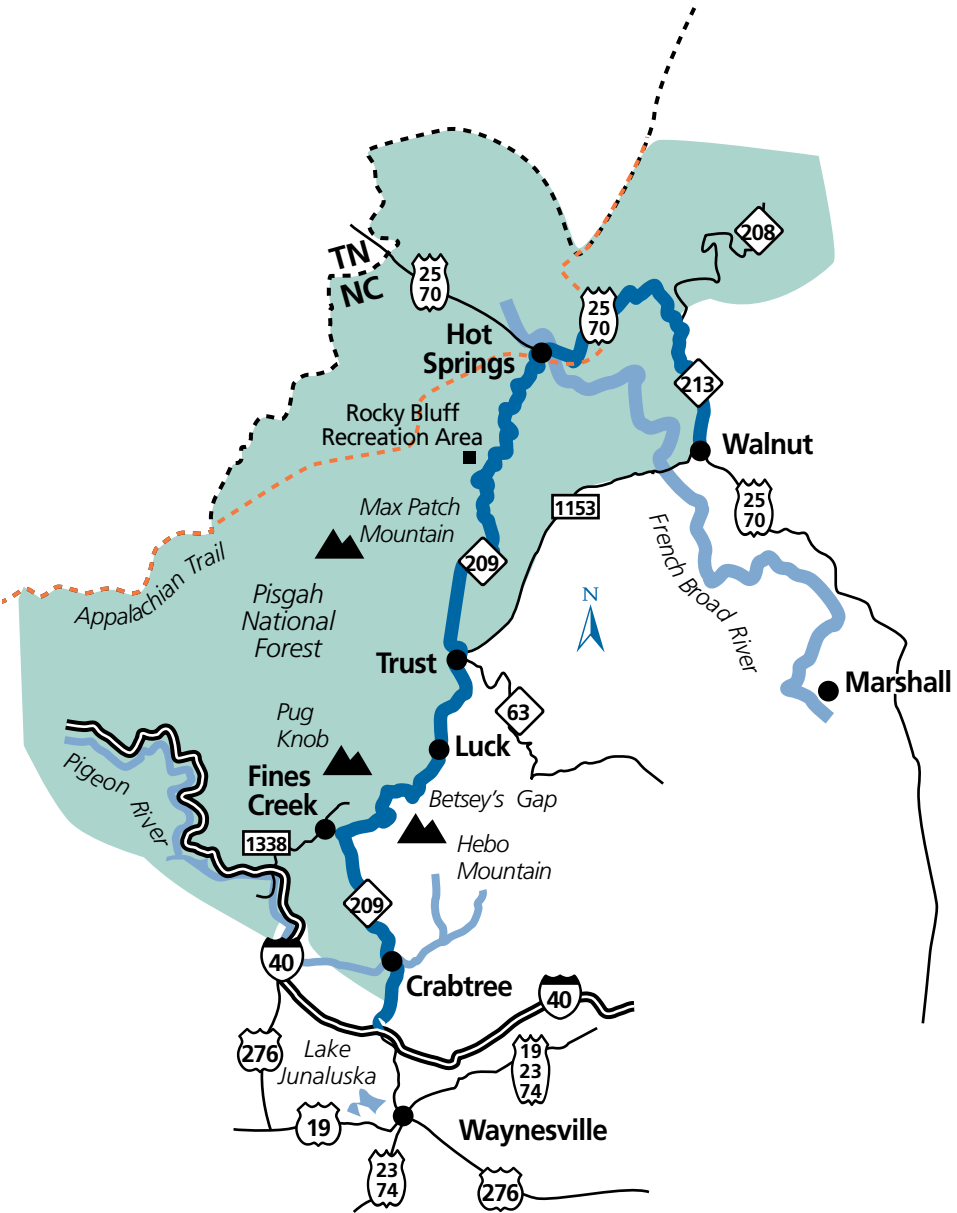


NCDOT

French Broad River

**beyond the recreation area.** Two scouts, Henry Reynolds and Thomas Morgan, first discovered the springs in 1778. Originally known as Warm Springs (changed to Hot Springs in 1886), it was a main stop for drovers that led cattle, hogs and horses to

markets in South Carolina and Georgia. In those days, the area had a rough reputation and was known for lawlessness. Toll roads with regular stagecoach traffic and private carriages slowly changed the character of towns such as Hot



Springs, and the drovers' stands were converted to accommodate a higher clientele seeking the healing waters of the springs. The history of this area also includes the first golf course in the Southeast, the imprisonment of German merchant sailors during World War I and the development of the Appalachian Trail. While in Hot Springs,



Appalachian Trail Crosses U.S. 25/70

take a side trip on Paint Rock Road (S.R. 1300). This leads to the area's best known landmark, a sheer rock cliff on which early settlers found painted images of humans and wild animals.

**Turn onto U.S. 25/70 and travel three miles outside of Hot Springs where the Appalachian Trail crosses the road via an overhead bridge. Then, follow U.S. 25/70 to Walnut, once called Jewell Hill before it was incorporated in 1905. The byway ends here, but motorists may continue south to Marshall and the intersection of the French Broad Overview (pg. 35).**



***Length: 45 miles  
Drive Time: 1.5 hours  
Counties: Haywood and Madison***



# FRENCH BROAD OVERVIEW

The French Broad Overview begins just north of Asheville in Weaverville, first settled in the 1700s. This small town was called Pine Cabin until its incorporation in 1850. It is also the site of the Vance Birthplace State Historic Site. Zebulon B. Vance was North Carolina's Civil War governor from 1862–1865. He also served in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. In addition to information about Vance, the historic site offers presentations on early mountain settler life.

**Begin following the byway by taking I-26 West from Asheville to Exit 19 in Weaverville. From the interchange, take the U.S. 25/70 Bypass toward Marshall. Turn left at the first stoplight onto Monticello Road (S.R. 1727).**

**Follow Monticello Road for three miles through a rural residential area until it ends at N.C. 251.** Along this road, notice the French Broad River as it makes its way west. The river was named for the French who inhabited this region during the 18th century. During the summer months, the French Broad River is a popular site for white-water rafting and canoeing. **Turn right onto N.C. 251**

**near the community of Alexander.**

Established in 1828, Alexander was named for the owner of a local stagecoach tavern.

This road, like many others in river valleys, was built following old Indian trading paths that led to trading posts and villages in the Tennessee and Ohio River valleys. Note the palisades, or sheer rock walls, that line the right side of the road. Over time, the wide river cut away at the rock valley walls. Migrating animals and American Indians used this passage to cross through the Eastern United States'

tallest mountains. When European settlers arrived, they also followed the river valleys and paths set by those before them and widened the paths into roads. With the arrival of trains, river valleys again provided the path of least resistance.

While following the French Broad River, a railroad is visible on the other side of the river. Near Marshall, the tracks cross the river and parallel the road.

**Continue following N.C. 251 after it joins U.S. 25/70 Business into Marshall.** Established in 1852 and named for former U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall, it is the Madison County seat. For the best view of the courthouse, turn



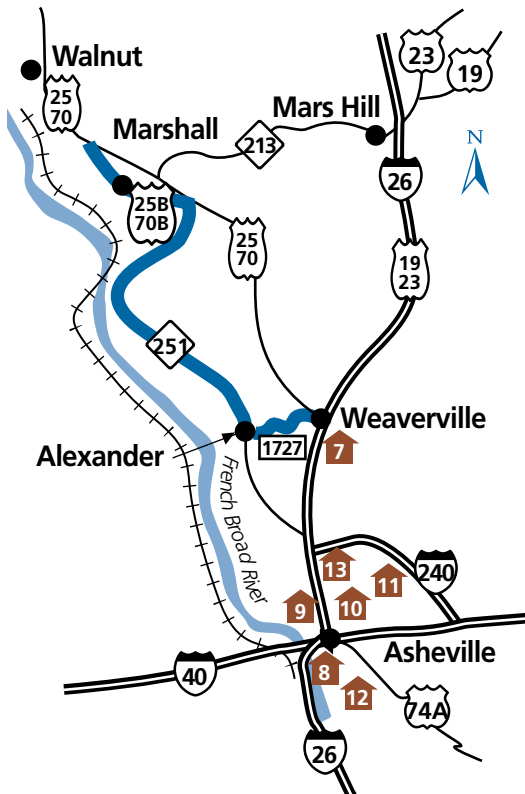
Downtown Marshall

left at the stoplight, cross the river, turn around in the school parking lot and re-cross the river to see this community perched upon the banks of the river.

**Turn left at the stoplight in front of the courthouse to continue on the final portion of this byway. Follow U.S. 25/70 Business as it winds up the hill past a beautifully laid stone wall and meets with the U.S. 25/70 Bypass one mile later. The route ends here.**



**Length: 17 miles**  
**Drive Time: 25 minutes**  
**Counties: Madison and Buncombe**





# HISTORIC FLAT ROCK SCENIC BYWAY

**The Historic Flat Rock Scenic Byway consists of several roads in the Flat Rock community. The main road, U.S. 25, runs north and south through Flat Rock. The second road, Little River Road (S.R. 1123), proceeds west four miles from U.S. 25. The third road is Rutledge Drive (S.R. 1164), which runs west from U.S. 25 one mile to Kanuga Road (S.R. 1127).**

The community of Flat Rock is named for a large expanse of granite once used as a meeting and ceremony site by the Cherokee. The village was also a popular haven for affluent Charlestonians, Europeans and plantation owners. These visitors left evidence of their stays in the many beautiful historic homes in town. History enthusiasts may be intrigued with the lineage of Southern aristocracy found among the tombstones in the St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church Cemetery.

**From Hendersonville, the Henderson County seat, take U.S. 25 South to Highland Lake Road (S.R. 1783), where the byway begins. One road further, turn right onto Rutledge Drive and drive slowly through one of Flat Rock's residential areas. This route highlights a**

historic mountain neighborhood with unique architecture. **At Kanuga Road, turn around and backtrack to U.S. 25 to continue following the byway.**

**After turning right onto U.S. 25,** look immediately to the right to see the St. John in the Wilderness gothic revival church. Built in 1836, it is considered the oldest Episcopal church in Western North Carolina. Numerous people have worshipped there, from wealthy and politically influential landowners to slaves. One-half mile further is "the great



St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church Cemetery

flat rock." This local landmark was frequently used as a meeting place for pioneers and merchants. It is now a meeting place for the Flat Rock Playhouse. Called the "State Theater of North Carolina," the playhouse is considered to have one of the best "summer series" productions in the country.

**At this point, motorists may follow Little River Road to the right or continue along U.S. 25.** Following U.S. 25 just beyond the Playhouse entrance, the Old Flat Rock Post Office, established in 1839, is on the left. Next is Blue Ridge Road (S.R. 1812), which leads to the community of East Flat Rock and the area's

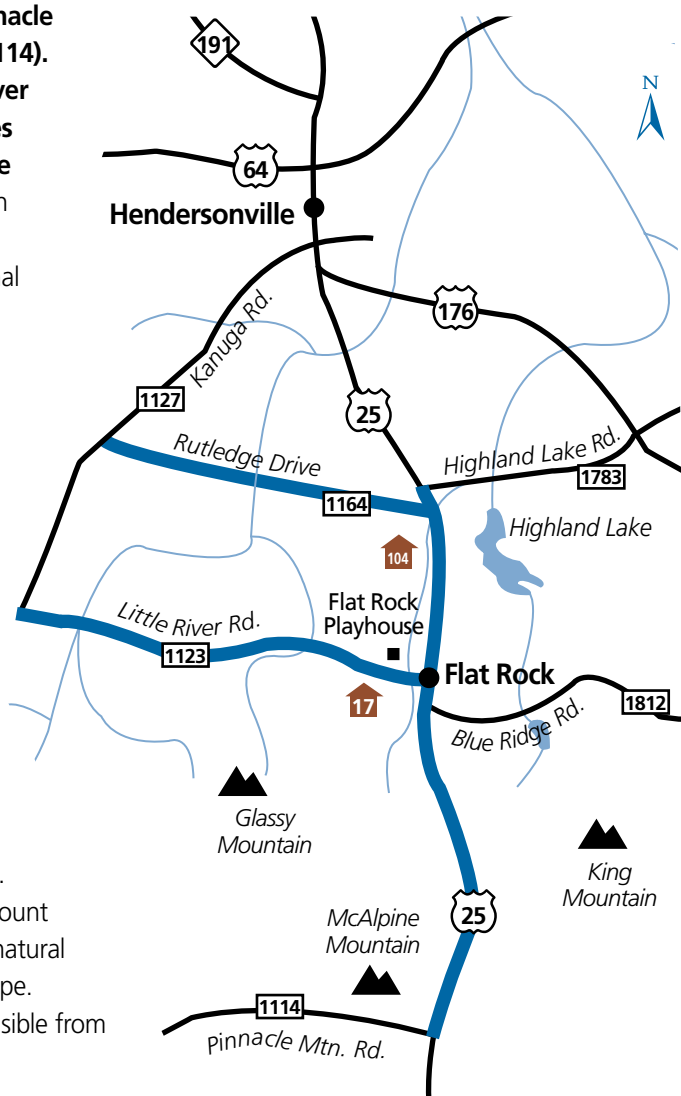
first railroad station. Further along U.S. 25 is the Woodfield Inn (formerly known as the Farmer Hotel). Built in 1852, the hotel has been a popular retreat for coastal South Carolinians for more than 100 years. A view of Glassy and McAlpin mountains follows. Across from the Kenmure Golf Course is "Argyle," built in 1830 as the summer home of Judge Mitchell King. King was one of the founding fathers of the St. John in the Wilderness Church and Hendersonville. **This portion of the byway ends at Pinnacle Mountain Road (S.R. 1114).**

**Turning on Little River Road, the byway passes another entrance to the Flat Rock Playhouse.** On the left is "Connemara," the Carl Sandburg National Memorial Site, home to the renowned author for 22 years. It was built in 1839 by Christopher G. Memminger, first secretary of the Confederate Treasury. Just beyond the memorial site is Saluda Cottage. Count Joseph Marie Gabriel St. Xavier de Choiseul built the home in 1836. As the French consul to Charleston, S.C. and Savannah, Ga., the count was drawn to the area's natural beauty and social landscape. Glassy Mountain is also visible from this road.

The byway continues along a winding pattern of woodlands and fields. Further down the route, Sally Caps Rock, which scales three-quarters up the side of Glassy Mountain, is visible. Many historic homes and beautiful areas extend beyond the reaches of this byway and are waiting to be explored. **This section of byway ends at Kanuga Road.**



**Length: 8.3 miles**  
**Drive Time: 20 minutes**  
**County: Henderson**



# DROVERS ROAD

The Drovers Road byway passes through Hickory Nut Gap, one of two gaps in the Blue Ridge Mountains used by early eastern settlers to reach the beautiful Asheville plateaus. Many farmers drove flocks of market-bound livestock through this gap, giving the byway its name.

Though this area has changed considerably during the past century, its beauty still abounds and the paths blazed through this region a century ago are the same avenues of choice today.

**The byway's western end begins along U.S. 74 Alternate at the Blue Ridge Parkway, just north of Fairview** as the highway works its way through the mountains from Asheville. Traveling south, notice Little Pisgah Mountain (elevation 4,412 feet) on the left. This peak was once known to the Cherokee as *Konnatoga*.

**Little Pisgah Mountain marks the beginning of the climb up and through Hickory Nut Gap.** This gap was once known as Sherrill's Gap after a historic inn and tavern located nearby and owned by Bedford Sherrill. The inn, open between 1834 and 1909, was a well-known comfort stop for weary travelers, settlers, drovers and Civil War soldiers. Listed as

a National Register Historic Site, the inn is now maintained as a private residence and is visible from the wide curves

between Ferguson Mountain and Tater Knob. The hillsides along the byway are covered in stands of mature trees. During the spring and early summer, motorists are treated to a visual symphony of flowering trillium and mountain laurel.



Mary Jane Hunter

Historic Sherrill's Inn along the byway.

**Descending from the gap, the byway passes into Hickory Nut**

**Gorge.** Bearwallow Mountain is on the right. Hickory Nut Creek (also known as the Rocky Broad) parallels the route.

**Five miles from the beginning of the byway is the quaint village of Gerton,** previously known as Pump. As the story goes, the town's original name came from the frequent practice of thirsty patrons to leave money by a local water pump. Upon their return, they would find a jar of clear potent liquid unique to these hills. The drive through this area offers several craft shops, stores, campgrounds and roadside stands. However, the infamous pump is gone.

The high, steep sides of the gorge are covered in a cascade of rocks, trees and rhododendron. In the spring, travelers

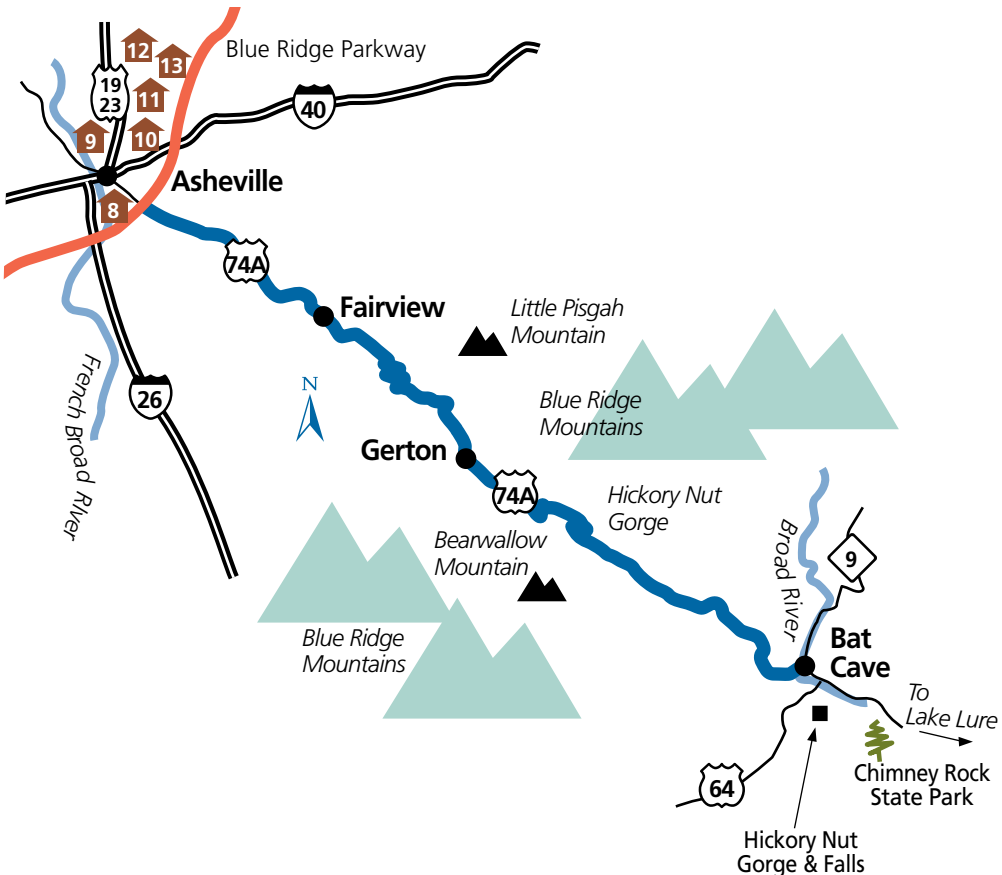
may see trees with deep lavender blooms scattered along this drive. George Vanderbilt originally brought the Paulownia tree, also known as the Empress tree, here. Since first introduced, the seeds of this tree have been spread throughout this area by birds. **The byway ends in Bat Cave, where U.S. 74A intersects with N.C. 9 and the Black Mountain Rag (pg. 41).**



**Length: 16.5 miles**  
**Drive Time: 25 minutes**  
**Counties: Buncombe and Henderson**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



# BLACK MOUNTAIN RAG

Earning its name from an old fiddle tune, the Black Mountain Rag, much like the traditional rag song style, is full of twists, turns, ups and downs.

The Black Mountains were deemed “black” because of the dark green foliage of the Lauda Firs that cover the mountainsides in this part of the state. To visit the Black Mountain resort community, take Exit 64 on I-40 at Black Mountain. Another interesting site near the byway is Mount Mitchell, which is the highest mountain east of the Mississippi River and may be reached from the nearby Blue Ridge Parkway.

**Begin traveling the byway south along N.C. 9 from the town of Black Mountain.** Along the sharp curves and hairpin turns of N.C. 9 lies the town of Bat Cave, which was aptly named for a nearby cave inhabited by these winged mammals. This portion of the byway is not recommended for recreational vehicles due to sharp curves. ***Motorists driving recreational vehicles or buses should take an alternate route following I-26 East from Asheville to U.S. 74 East to access the Lake Lure and Bat Cave area.***

Flowing to the right of N.C. 9 the Broad River, which ends at the community of Lake Lure, is joined by Hickory Nut

Creek near the intersection of U.S. 64, U.S. 74 and N.C. 9. **To visit Lake Lure, turn left and follow U.S. 64/74A/N.C. 9 East. Departing Bat Cave, take U.S. 64 East to Chimney Rock.** Be sure to keep an eye out for the historic Chimney Rock, which is on the right along the three-mile span between the communities of Bat Cave and Chimney Rock. Chimney Rock



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Chimney Rock

is a weathered granite monolith that rises from Chimney Rock Mountain. Motorists may want to take a side trip to Chimney Rock State Park to visit this unique rock formation, which overlooks Hickory Nut Gorge and Lake Lure.

Hickory Nut Falls, cascading more than 400 feet into the Broad River, add to the beautiful mountain scenery and have been featured in a number of movies including “Fire Starter,” “Last of the Mohicans” and “A Breed Apart.” Just past the falls, settlers once crossed the high mountains of Hickory Nut Gap to reach the Asheville plateau. In fact, historians believe that

Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto passed through here around 1540. **Continuing on N.C. 9, pass through Hickory Nut Gorge.** The gorge runs southeast from Hickory Nut Gap and drops 1,800 feet before ending at Lake Lure.

The resort community of Lake Lure was established in 1927 and provided the scenery for the movie "Dirty Dancing." Before **crossing Pool Creek, where N.C. 9 and U.S. 64/74A split**, notice the historic resort hotel on the right. Pool Creek is home to North Carolina's famous bottomless pools. The erosion of ancient rock formed these unique water features. This is a privately operated site that charges an admission fee.

**To continue following the byway, backtrack along U.S. 64 West eight miles to Bat Cave** along the winding edge of Lake Lure. **In Bat Cave, follow**

**U.S. 64 toward Hendersonville.** Along this six-mile route, enjoy the beautiful masses of mountain laurel and some of North Carolina's finest apple orchards. This area was settled in 1830. **The Black Mountain Rag byway ends at Mills Gap Road (S.R. 1586).** Nearby is the resort community and Henderson County seat, Hendersonville. To visit poet and author Carl Sandburg's home, drive along the Historic Flat Rock Scenic Byway (pg. 37).



**Length: 31 miles**  
**Drive Time: 45 minutes**  
**Counties: Buncombe, Rutherford and Henderson**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**





# PACOLET RIVER BYWAY

**The Pacolet River Byway begins at the South Carolina state line and traces U.S. 176 through the Tryon Thermal Belt,**

an unusual microclimate area ordinarily free of dew and frost, to the town of Saluda. This valley road crosses the Pacolet River several times and parallels the Saluda

Grade, the steepest mainline railroad grade in the United States.

Old railroad depots, log cabins, a vaudeville/movie theater and several other historic buildings are in the towns of Saluda and Tryon. Pearson's Falls

Natural Heritage Site, near Saluda, is a 259-acre botanical wonderland where visitors may hike, bird watch or picnic.

**The byway ends where U.S. 176 crosses High Bridge at the Henderson County line.**

The Historic Flat Rock Scenic Byway (pg. 37), which passes the Carl Sandburg



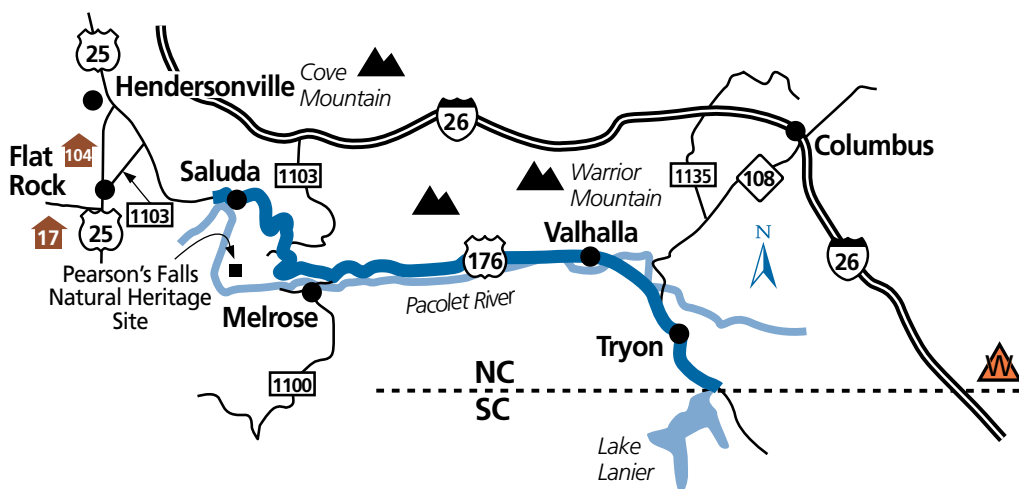
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Downtown Saluda

National Historic Site and Flat Rock Playhouse, is located nearby.



**Length: 10 miles**  
**Drive Time: 20 minutes**  
**County: Polk**



# SOUTH MOUNTAIN SCENERY

The South Mountain Scenery byway offers motorists a transitional drive between the piedmont and mountains.

To access the byway's southern terminus, **travel along U.S. 74 West from Shelby and take N.C. 226 to the community of Metcalf, where the byway begins.** Shelby, the Cleveland County seat, was named for Isaac Shelby, a

Revolutionary War commander. Cleveland County was formed in 1841 and named for Col. Benjamin Cleveland, a hero of the Battle at Kings Mountain.

From Metcalf, **follow N.C. 226 to Polkville**, located in the First Broad River Valley. Here, look for glimpses of the South Mountains ahead to the right. Along the way, enjoy the upper Piedmont farmlands and spectacular mountain views. Corn and apples are some of the crops that may be seen from the road. This part of the route is in Rutherford County. Formed in 1779, the county was named for Griffith Rutherford, a member of the Provincial Congress and a Revolutionary War general. Cherry Mountain lies to the southwest and earned its name from the production of liquor and "cherry bounce" — produced

from local cherry trees — brewed here after the Civil War.

The South Mountains are an isolated

range located in Burke, Rutherford and Cleveland counties. The Cherokee Indians called them the *Oakanoahs*. South Mountains State Park and the South Mountains Wildlife Management Area offer interesting side trips. The state



NC DOT

South Mountains State Park

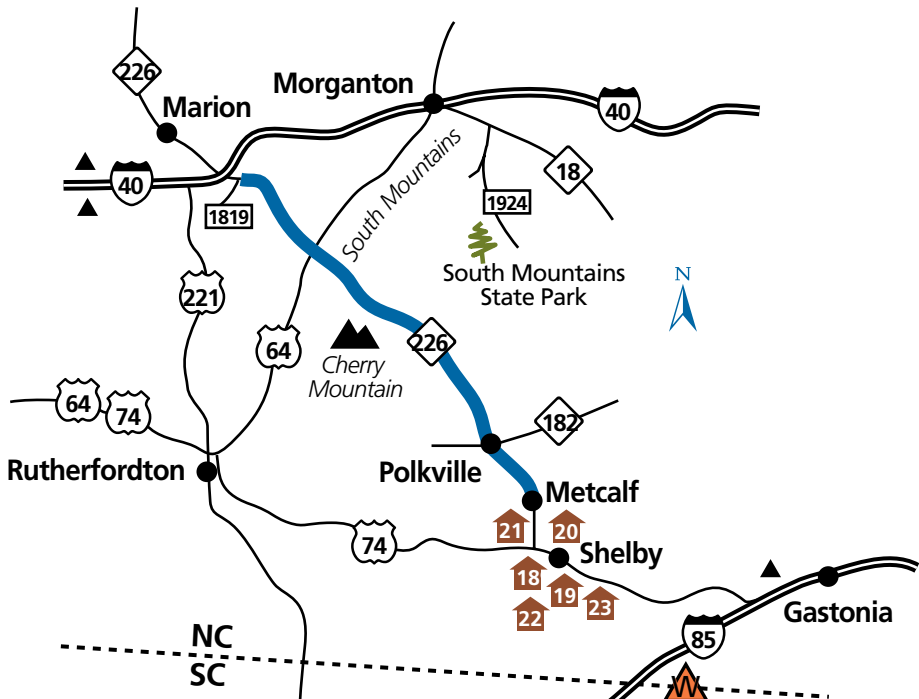
park is 16 miles south of Morganton off Old N.C. 18 (S.R. 1924). Both the state park and wildlife management area are located in Burke County. To get to the park, take I-40 to Exit 104. Travel north on Enola Road (S.R. 1922) for one-half mile. Turn right onto Old N.C. 18, follow this road south back over I-40, and follow signs from there.

**Continuing on the byway, pass through the Dysartville community**, named for the family who settled this area. While driving the last 10 miles toward Marion, glimpses of North Carolina's Appalachian Mountains are visible from the route. **The byway ends at the intersection with Henredon Road (S.R. 1819), just before I-40 and south of Marion.**

Marion, the McDowell County seat, was named for South Carolina's Francis Marion, a farmer and Revolutionary War general. McDowell County, formed in 1842, was named for Joseph McDowell who fought at Kings Mountain and was a member of Congress. Another beautiful (and close) scenic byway is Black Mountain Rag (pg. 41), which begins on N.C. 9 just south of Exit 64 on I-40.



**Length: 33 miles**  
**Drive Time: 45 minutes**  
**Counties: Cleveland, Rutherford and McDowell**



# MISSION CROSSING

The Mission Crossing byway, which begins near the Avery County community of Cranberry, guides motorists along N.C. 194 through North Carolina's ski country and the northern range of the Roan Mountains in Pisgah National Forest before ending at Vilas in Watauga County.

First called Cranberry Forge for the iron

mines believed to have been worked by American Indians, Cranberry was founded in 1850 and named for the abundant local cranberries. The mines once supplied iron to the Confederacy and are still in use today.

Just down the road **at the byway's southern end is Elk Park**, founded in 1885 and named for the elk that formerly roamed the region. It is located on the Elk River, which begins in Banner Elk. **The byway follows N.C. 194 through the Elk River Valley from Elk Park through the community of Heaton to Banner Elk.**

Banner Elk, also known as Shawneehaw, is the home of Lees-McRae College. The town was named for the Banner family, early settlers on the Elk River. Above Banner Elk is Beech Mountain,

which at 5,506 feet, is one of the region's better-known resorts. **After Banner**

**Elk, the route passes through the communities of Balm and Bowers Gap before crossing into Watauga County.** The

creek paralleling the road is called Craborchard Creek, which joins the Watauga River near Valle Crucis.

**Shortly after**

**passing through the community of Matney, the route begins descending into the Watauga River Valley.** The

name *Watauga* is derived from the American Indian word for "beautiful water." On the left is the mission from which this route got its name. To the right is Dutch Creek, which meets with Craborchard Creek below.

The mission played an important part in the history of Valle Crucis. In 1842, Bishop Stillman Ives purchased 3,000 acres of land and founded a divinity school that became the first Anglican monastic order since the Reformation. In 1852, the divinity school and monastery were forced to disband. By 1895, Bishop Joseph Blount Cheshire revived the Episcopal church's work by opening a mission school that remained in operation until World War II. The mission



Shannon Hendrickson

Mast General Store in Valle Crucis

is now operated by the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina as a camp and conference center.

Valle Crucis, settled in 1780 by Samuel Hix, means “Valley of the Cross” and is named for the creeks that converge with the Watauga River in the form of a cross. Before leaving the valley, be sure to visit the Mast Farm Inn. The farm, established in 1812, is one of the best preserved 19th century farms in Western North Carolina and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Stop at the Mast General Store in Valle Crucis to see an authentic general store that opened in 1882. Take a right on Broadside Road to see the Mast Farm Inn and General Store Annex.

**Continuing on N.C. 194 after leaving Valle Crucis,** notice the unusual barn on the right while climbing out of the valley. The Baird Barn, built in the late 19th or early 20th century, is an excellent example of a transverse crib barn.

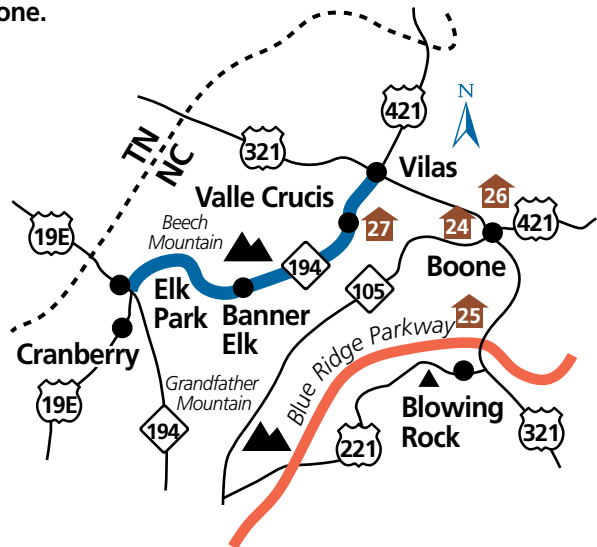
**The byway ends in the community of Vilas at the intersection of N.C. 194 and U.S. 321/421 north of Boone.**



**Length: 17 miles**  
**Drive Time: 45 minutes**  
**Counties: Avery and Watauga**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



# LITTLE PARKWAY

Known as the Little Parkway or the Yonahlossee Trail, U.S. 221 connects the resort towns of Blowing Rock and Linville and forms the Little Parkway byway. Built in 1889 by man and mule as a toll road, the Little Parkway winds along the side of Grandfather Mountain.

N.C. Travel & Tourism



Moses Cone's Flat Top Manor

This road was one of many privately owned roads in the state and served as the link between Blowing Rock and Linville before the completion of the Blue Ridge Parkway in 1987. Work began in 1935 on the 470-mile Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina. The route follows the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains from the Shenandoah Mountains in Virginia to the Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina.

**The byway begins at the intersection of U.S. 221 and N.C. 105 in Linville. Follow U.S. 221 North towards Blowing Rock.** Established in 1883 and designed by Samuel T. Kelsey of Kansas, Linville is located on the Linville River. South of Linville are Linville Falls and Linville Gorge. All were named for William and John Linville who were killed below the falls by American Indians in 1766.

The upper and lower falls, accessed from the Blue Ridge Parkway, are 12 feet and 90 feet high respectively. Linville Gorge

is among the nation's largest gorges and is located in one of the wildest uninhabited areas in the Eastern United States.

Majestic

Grandfather Mountain is located along the byway between the two towns. It was named because the mountain, when viewed at a distance, resembles an old man's profile against the sky. Grandfather Mountain, or *Tanawha*, as American Indians called it, is the highest point in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Because of its height, Grandfather Mountain provides a habitat for special mountain plant species.

The Linn Cove Viaduct, the final link in the Blue Ridge Parkway, is visible from the face of Grandfather Mountain. The viaduct is five miles north of Linville and at the time of its construction was the world's only bridge built from the top down. This innovative construction method assured that no heavy equipment was placed on the face of the mountain to protect the mountain ecology. For more detailed information about the construction



process, visit the National Park Service's information center just off the viaduct on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

While traveling to Blowing Rock along the byway, watch for signs marking the Eastern Continental Divide. Also, notice the residential areas along the edges of the Pisgah National Forest through which this road passes. On the left, near Blowing Rock, look for a large colonial revival house with huge columns on the front. Called Westglow, the house was built by Elliott Daingerfield and used as his summer residence. One of North Carolina's most renowned artists, Daingerfield has work displayed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. To see one of his best pieces, however, continue into Blowing Rock to view the "Madonna of the Hills" hanging in St. Mary's-of-the-Hills Episcopal Church.

**After passing Westglow, continue 1.5 miles and pass the Moses H. Cone Memorial Park,** (visitors must enter the

park through the main gate on the Blue Ridge Parkway). The 3,516-acre park is named for the textile manufacturer whose estate comprises the park. Flat Top Manor, named for the mountain rising above the home, is now a museum and craft center. Tiffany windows are among the many unusual aspects of this house. Take advantage of the great picnic and hiking areas, as well as breathtaking views of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

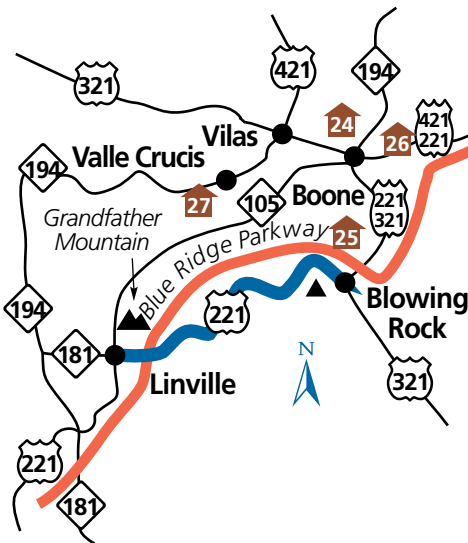
**Continue past the park one-half mile to Blowing Rock,** settled in 1870. Blowing Rock was named for the nearby cliff rising above the Johns River Valley from which air currents rise to allow light objects to be blown back to the sender. This resort community, the only incorporated town on the Blue Ridge Parkway, has seasonal festivals in the park. **The byway ends at the U.S. 321 Business stoplight.**



**Length: 18 miles**  
**Drive Time: 45 minutes**  
**Counties: Avery, Caldwell**  
**and Watauga**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



# NEW RIVER VALLEY BYWAY

The New River Valley Byway gives motorists the opportunity to see some of the most beautiful mountain scenery and the largest concentration of Christmas tree farms in the state. The route travels north from Boone to Laurel Springs through the Stone Mountains in the New River Valley, which forms a common boundary between North Carolina and Tennessee.



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North Carolina Christmas Tree Farm

which rises near Boone, flow to Ashe County where they join to form the New River.

## Continue on

**N.C. 194** along what had been called the "Old Buffalo Trail," named after the migration path of buffalo herds. The area between Boone and Todd is the site of a Revolutionary War engagement. Todd lies at the junction of Big Elk Creek

## The byway begins at the intersection of N.C. 194 and U.S.

**221/421 in Boone**, the Watauga County seat. The town is named for Daniel Boone, who was known to have camped in this area, and is also home to Appalachian State University.

**Leave Boone on N.C. 194 North to begin following the byway from its southern terminus.** This road winds as it crosses mountains and passes over rivers and streams through the New River Valley. The New River is North America's oldest river and the only large north-flowing river in the country. It is one of the first rivers in the world; in fact, scientists estimate that only the Nile River in Africa is older. The North Fork, which rises in northern Watauga County, and the South Fork,

and the South Fork of the New River. Settled in the mid-1800s, it was a bustling logging community until the mid-1930s. Be sure to look for the Todd General Store on the right while passing through town.

**From Todd, continue along the byway into Ashe County and Baldwin where the route temporarily ends at the intersection of U.S. 221 and N.C. 194. To resume following the byway, continue toward West Jefferson and Jefferson**, the Ashe County seat, **on U.S. 221 North.** Cheese lovers will want to visit the cheese factory in downtown West Jefferson. It is the only cheese factory in the state and is located one-half block southeast of Main Street on Fourth Street. Settled in 1803, Jefferson was named for then president Thomas Jefferson.

**The byway resumes at the N.C. 16/88 intersection just east of the Jefferson town limits. Follow N.C. 88 to Laurel Springs** while passing through a popular canoeing and whitewater rafting area. **Travel through the community of Ore Knob**, chartered in 1875 and named for the booming copper ore mine. **The scenic byway ends at the intersection of N.C. 18 and 88 in Laurel Springs** about 2.5 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Laurel Springs was settled in 1859 and named for the nearby spring flowing from laurel-covered rocks.

Nearby attractions include the Blue Ridge Parkway, Mount Jefferson State Park, New River State Park and Doughton Park. Doughton Park, the largest recreational area along the Blue Ridge Parkway, was named in honor of North Carolina Congressman Robert L. Doughton who worked to establish the Blue Ridge

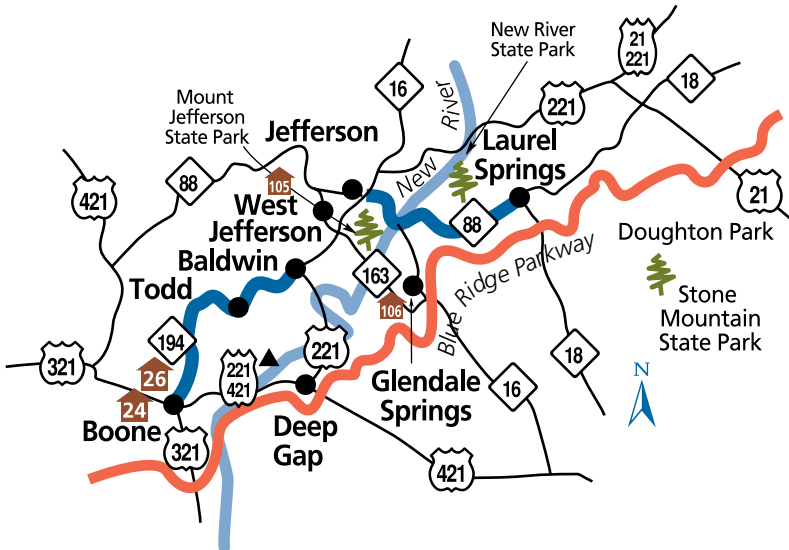
Parkway. Brinegar Cabin, built in 1880, is located within the park and is accessible from the Blue Ridge Parkway.



**Length: 35 miles**  
**Drive Time: 75 minutes**  
**Counties: Watauga and Ashe**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



# I-26 SCENIC HIGHWAY

Located in some of North Carolina's highest terrain, the Interstate 26 Scenic Highway in Madison County takes motorists straight through the heart of the Appalachian Mountains and offers stunning views, as well as engineering and environmental wonders.

**Traveling north from Asheville, take U.S. 19/23**

**North to Mars Hill.** This highway is also designated as Future I-26. **The byway begins at Exit 9 (U.S. 19/23A North).**

Originally called Pleasant Hill, this area was first settled around 1790. The community grew up around the establishment of the French Broad Baptist Academy in 1856. In 1859, the school was chartered as Mars Hill College after a Biblical reference in Acts to a location the apostle Paul visited. The town itself did not receive a charter until 1893, changing its name to Mars Hill to reflect the influence of the college. Further information on the history of Mars Hill and Madison County is available at the Mars Hill College Rural Life Center, about one-half mile from the highway.

**Continue on I-26 West and pass Exit 9,** where U.S. 19 departs the interstate.

Located two miles farther to the right, is the first of two scenic overlooks along the highway. In addition to sweeping views of the Madison County landscape, careful observers will spot the Blue Ridge Parkway across the valley and the tiny California Creek Church below the highway.

Near the overlook, but not visible from the

interstate, is one of two wildlife passages constructed underneath the highway. These eight-foot by eight-foot concrete culverts allow bears, deer and other wildlife to safely cross the highway corridor without entering the roadway.

Continuing westward, the highway passes a N.C. Welcome Center, located alongside the eastbound lanes. The center was constructed to resemble a typical mountain farmstead. In addition to restroom facilities, travel information and vending machines, the center offers exhibits related to mountain life and culture. Inside the welcome center, travelers will find displays of local arts and crafts as well as an exhibit outlining the construction of this segment of I-26.

The second scenic overlook is also located at the welcome center. From the



Scenic view along I-26

observation point, visitors can view Mount Mitchell, the highest peak east of the Mississippi River, as well as Black Mountain, Grandfather Mountain and the Blue Ridge Parkway. Below the observation area, visitors will find an educational display on the chestnut tree, which is indigenous to this area.

Passing the welcome center, the highway climbs until it reaches its highest

point, Buckner Gap. At nearly 5,000 feet above sea level, this is the highest elevation on any interstate in North Carolina. Near the top of Buckner Gap is one of NCDOT's first monarch butterfly sanctuaries, which is not easily visible from the highway. The unique wildlife habitat was created to enhance the environment along the highway's roadsides.

At mile marker three, the highway



crosses the Laurel River near the Wolf Laurel community. This part of the state is known for winter ski resorts. At 235 feet, the Laurel River bridge is the tallest in North Carolina. Because of its height and the severity of winter weather in North Carolina's higher elevations, the bridge was designed with

an automatic de-icing system. Careful observers will notice several nozzles on the bridge's sides that are part of this system. The highway's second animal crossing is also located 1.5 miles past the bridge.

At this point, I-26 approaches Sams Gap and the Tennessee state line. At the state line, there is a pull-off for truckers that provide information about highway safety and the runaway truck ramps located along the highway's eastbound lanes. The Appalachian Trail runs under the highway through an underpass at the state line. A small parking lot was constructed here for trail hikers. Though the scenic highway ends at the Tennessee state line, travel five miles to the first Tennessee exit at Flag Pond to return to North Carolina.



N.C. Welcome Center on I-26



**Length: 9 miles**  
**Drive Time: 15 minutes**  
**County: Madison**



# U.S. 421 SCENIC BYWAY

The U.S. 421 Scenic Byway travels through Watauga County's portion of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The byway offers sweeping views of the valleys, woodlands and mountains between Deep Gap and Boone. It also runs near the home of multiple Grammy Award winner and cultural icon Doc Watson.

**Begin following the byway along**

**U.S. 421 North at the intersection with the Blue Ridge Parkway.** The parkway crosses U.S. 421 on a bridge covered with native stones to reflect the beauty of the area. Often called "America's Original Scenic Byway," the National Park Service's Blue Ridge Parkway travels 252 miles through North Carolina and provides exceptional views of the Appalachians.

**Just after passing the Blue Ridge Parkway, the byway enters Watauga County near the town of Deep Gap,** home of Doc and Merle Watson. Arthel L. "Doc" Watson, who was born blind, is a recording artist known for his unique music that blends traditional Appalachian styles with gospel, bluegrass and country. His son Merle joined him in his music career during the late 1960s and together they spread

the Appalachian sound throughout the world until Merle's untimely death in 1985.

**Continuing north along U.S. 421, the byway passes the intersection**

**with U.S. 221** and enters the New River Watershed. In 1999, President Bill Clinton named the watershed as one of the first American Heritage rivers. American Heritage rivers are designated



Farmland along U.S. 421 between Deep Gap and Boone

by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to receive special attention for natural resource and environmental protection, economic revitalization, and historic and cultural preservation. The northward-flowing New River is believed to be one of the world's first rivers. In fact, scientists believe that only the Nile River is older.

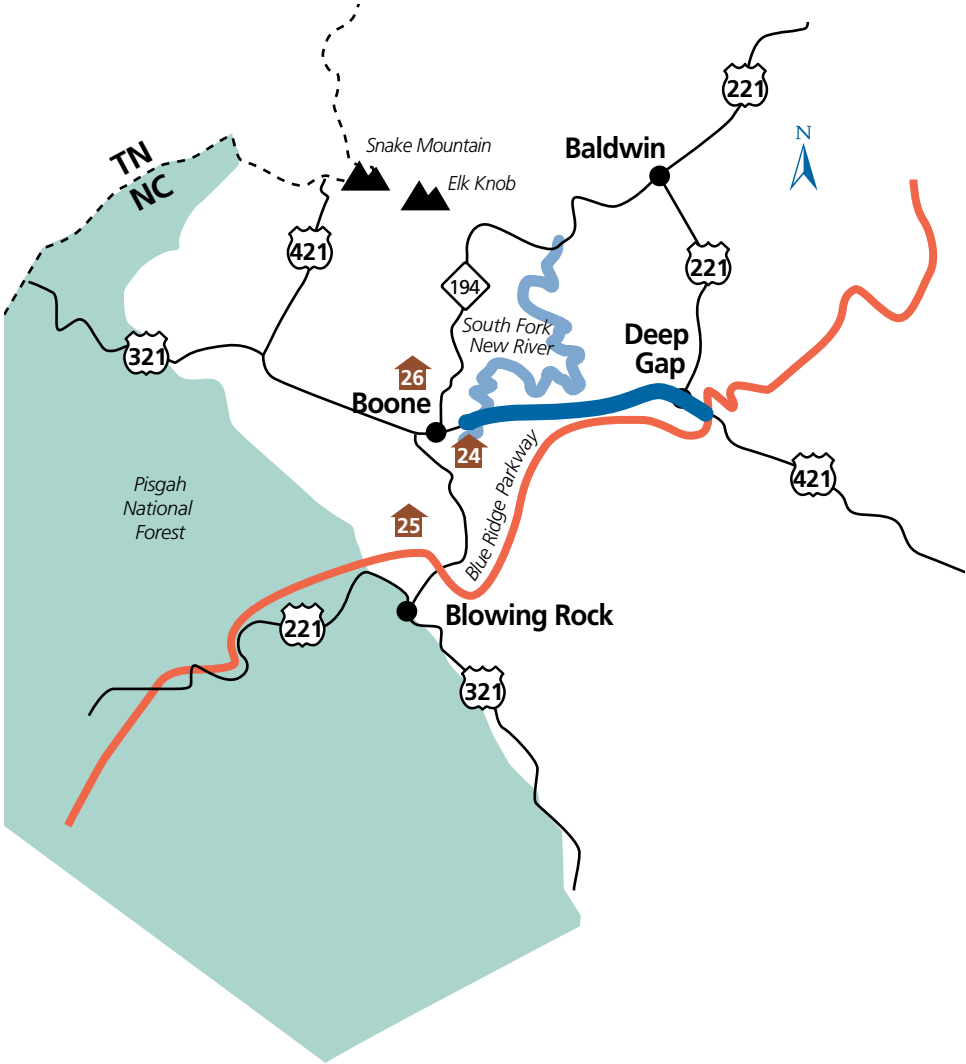
**The byway then ascends a ridge,** providing motorists with panoramic views of Snake Mountain and Elk Knob, which are a part of the Amphibolite Range. Along the way, motorists can take in views of the area's hardwood and mixed forests, as well as horse and cattle farms. Also visible are a number of Fraser Fir Christmas Tree farms. Watauga County is a leading national producer of these firs.

**After continuing through the communities of Brownwood and Laurel Springs, the byway ends at the South Fork of the New River and the Boone town limits.** The New River provides recreational opportunities such as canoeing and fishing. Boone, the Watauga County seat, is the home of Appalachian

State University. The Little Parkway (pg. 48), Mission Crossing (pg. 46) and New River Valley (pg. 50) scenic byways are located nearby.



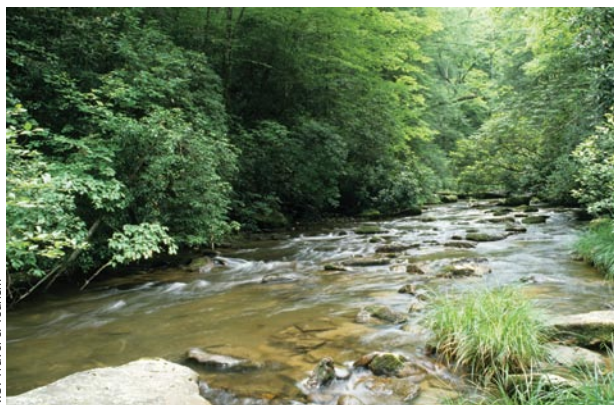
**Length: 8 miles**  
**Drive Time: 15 minutes**  
**County: Watauga**



# PISGAH LOOP SCENIC BYWAY

The Pisgah Loop Scenic Byway gives motorists an opportunity to view some of North Carolina's most beautiful and remote landscapes. This 47-mile loop route around Burke County offers motorists unparalleled views of

N.C. Travel & Tourism



Stream in Pisgah National Forest

Western North Carolina and a section of byway recommended only for four-wheel-drive vehicles.

**To access the byway, travel north along N.C. 181 from Morganton,** the Burke County seat. Motorists will notice stone-topped mountains that form a natural barrier to the west. These routes have changed little since early settlers and Revolutionary and Civil War units were challenged with the prospect of crossing into the lands beyond. **The byway begins at the intersection of N.C. 181 and Fish Hatchery Road (S.R. 1240).**

**Travel north on N.C. 181 for 17 miles** along Steele Creek, which follows the route of Kirk's Raiders in the Civil War. The raiders used this route after a successful attack on the Confederate Army Camp Vance outside Morganton. The byway rises and winds up into the Pisgah National Forest with views of Table Rock and Hawksbill Mountain, and a trail access

point to the Upper Creek Falls.

**Turn left at N.C. 183** in the Jonas

Ridge community just prior to the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Linville Falls National Park Service Visitor Center and Campground can be accessed

by traveling south on the parkway at this point. **Continuing on the byway, travel four miles on N.C. 183, which runs parallel to the parkway, past a rare montane, or mountain, wetland. At this point, the byway crosses the Linville River** above its raging descent into the Linville Gorge.

**Turn left onto Old N.C. 105 (S.R. 1238),** also called the Kistler Memorial Highway, at the Avery County line. This 15-mile stretch of road is mostly unpaved and left natural to protect the Linville Gorge National Wilderness Area that follows the east side of the road. **Four-wheel-drive vehicles are required past this point.** Travelers are encouraged to tread lightly along this part of the byway for safety and to protect the pristine conditions of the wilderness.

Old N.C. 105 winds along the crest of a line of mountains, providing unmatched views from both sides of the

vehicle. Motorists may enjoy the scenery at the parking area and trail access for Linville Falls and Wiseman's View. This area provides a short, handicapped-accessible trail, which reveals the true natural splendor and beauty of this area. From the overlook, visitors have an eagle-eye view of the rock faces of Table Rock Mountain, Hawksbill Mountain, the Chimneys and other rock faces as the Linville River roars through the gorge hundreds of feet below.

Continuing past Wiseman's View, the byway crosses Dog Back Mountain, which gives motorists sweeping views of Lake James as the route begins its descent into the Catawba River Valley below. This section of byway intersects and parallels the Overmountain Victory Trail, used by patriots in the American Revolution en route to a crucial victory over forces loyal to the English at Kings Mountain.

**Turn left on N.C. 126 and travel five miles.** This portion of the byway is part of the Overmountain Victory Trail Commemorative Motor Route and is used by reenactors wearing period costumes each year to commemorate the crossing of the mountains to reach the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Lake James State Park encompasses most of the property on the right side of the highway from this point to the Linville River. The park includes the largest waterfront acreage in a state park in Western North Carolina. The byway crosses the Linville River as it exits Linville Gorge and enters Lake James, the uppermost lake in the Catawba River system. After the wild and scenic journey through the Linville Gorge, the river calms itself in the vast, pristine waters of Lake James.

Likewise, motorists view the clear blue water of Lake James upon reaching the Linville Public Access Area. The access area is the site of the fort battle and canoe scenes from the movie, "Last of the Mohicans."

The byway continues a short distance **and turns left onto Fish Hatchery Road (S.R. 1254 and S.R. 1240).** The road is named for the Table Rock Fish Hatchery operated by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission halfway down this six-mile segment of the byway. Fish Hatchery Road gives travelers a glimpse of Western North Carolina's past by providing views of historic foothill farms tucked in among blooming mountain laurel, mountain streams and views of Table Rock Mountain.

**Upon returning to N.C. 181, motorists may turn left and travel to Brown Mountain Road** to visit the Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River in neighboring Caldwell County, or turn right and return to Morganton to visit the Quaker Meadows historical site or take a stroll down the miles of riverfront greenways along the Catawba River.

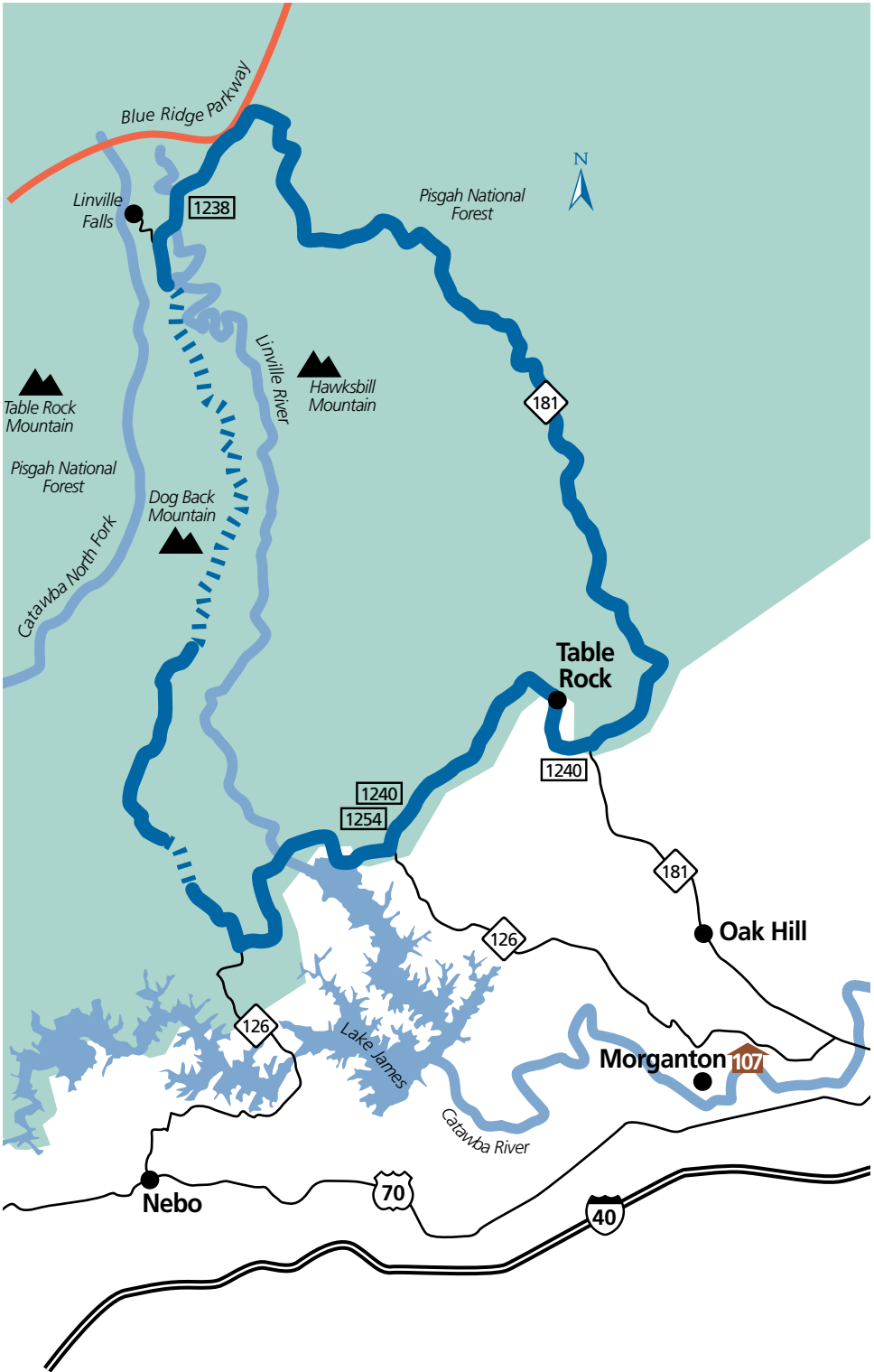


**Length: 47 miles**  
**Drive Time: 2.5 hours**  
**County: Burke**



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**

**Four-wheel-drive vehicles required for unpaved portions.**



# UPPER YADKIN WAY

The Upper Yadkin Way byway takes motorists on a scenic adventure through the state's northern foothills. **The route's eastern**

**terminus is near the W. Kerr Scott Reservoir in Goshen at the intersection of N.C. 268 and Reservoir Road (S.R. 1178). Follow N.C. 268 west toward Goshen.** The

reservoir was formed in 1962 for flood control and recreation and named for

North Carolina Gov. W. Kerr Scott, who served from 1949 to 1952.

Pastures and farmland can be seen along this segment of N.C. 268 between Goshen and Ferguson, which follows the Yadkin River from the mountains through the foothills. The Yadkin River rises in Watauga County, near Blowing Rock, to the west. It eventually becomes a part of the Pee Dee River bordering Montgomery and Stanly counties.

Wilkesboro and Wilkes County were named for John Wilkes, an English political leader who supported American rights in the Revolutionary War era. The county was formed in 1778 and nearby Wilkesboro, the county seat, was laid out in 1801.

Not far from N.C. 268, in southwest Wilkes County near the town of Ferguson, is the grave of Thomas C. Dula. He is

perhaps best remembered in the folk song "Tom Dooley," and was hung in Statesville for the murder of Laura Foster in 1868. Patterson, founded in 1851 with a textile-based economy, was named for Samuel F. Patterson, a prominent state official. The Morgan School

at Patterson Reserve is named in honor of Samuel Legerwood Patterson and located on the plantation lands he gave to the school.

The upper Yadkin River in Caldwell County is known as "Happy Valley," and was the site of prominent early settlers' residences. South of Patterson is Fort Defiance, the restored 1790 house of Gen. William Lenoir, a Revolutionary leader and hero at the Battle of Kings Mountain. The house stands on the site of a frontier fort of the same name. It is open for tours the first and third Sundays of the month from April through November.

**The byway's eastern end is located at the intersection of N.C. 268 and**



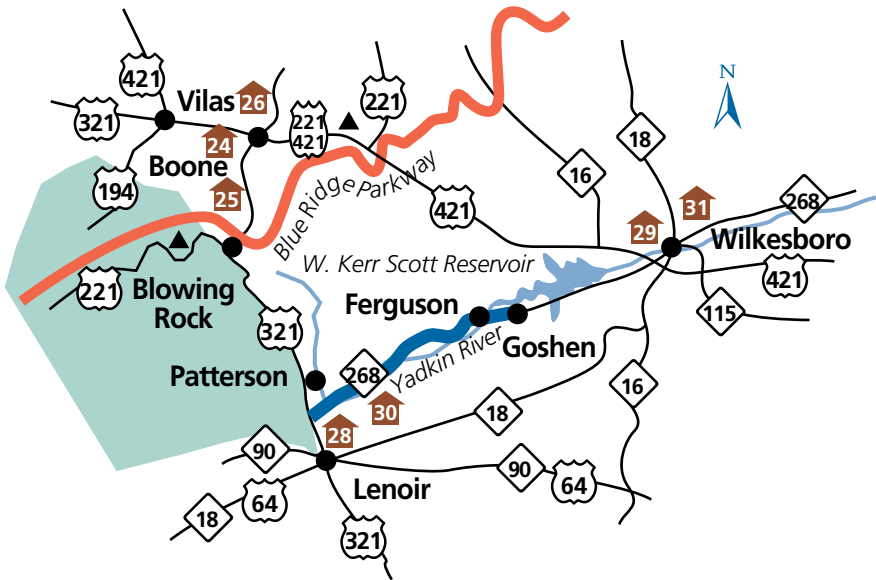
Headstone at grave of Thomas C. Dula



**U.S. 321 north of Lenoir, at the edge of the Pisgah National Forest.** Now the Caldwell County seat, Lenoir was named for Gen. Lenoir. A few miles to the north is the resort community of Blowing Rock. (See the Little Parkway on pg. 48 for more information on Blowing Rock.)



**Length: 25 miles**  
**Drive Time: 40 minutes**  
**Counties: Wilkes and Caldwell**





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# PIEDMONT REGION



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# HANGING ROCK SCENIC BYWAY

By traveling the Hanging Rock Scenic Byway, motorists can explore the ancient Sauratown Mountains in North Carolina's rolling northern piedmont. **To**

**access the byway, take Exit 118 off U.S. 52 and follow N.C. 65 East through Rural Hall.** This town is in

an area settled by Germans after the Revolutionary War.

**At the intersection of N.C. 65 and N.C. 66, turn left and follow N.C. 66 North to Mount**

**Olive in Stokes County. The byway begins where Denny Road (S.R. 2000) intersects with N.C. 66.**

**Follow N.C. 66 North for 4.5 miles to the community of Gap, where the road will fork.** On the way, pass through the community of Mount Olive, named for a local church and not to be confused with the town of Mount Olive in Wayne County. **Follow the right fork, which is Moores Springs Road (S.R. 1001), just northwest of Hanging Rock State Park.**

For an interesting side trip, travel into the 6,192-acre park for a wonderful panoramic view of the area. The park is named for an unusual natural quartzite outcrop, which is a part of the ancient Sauratown Mountains.

Geology enthusiasts will be interested in the deposits of itacolumite, a flexible sandstone found only here and in Brazil.

Also in the park are the Cascade Falls, which have a double drop of 200 feet in the upper cascade and 60 feet in the lower cascade. Lewis David Von Schweinitz, a Moravian mycologist and botanist, discovered the falls. Look for Tory's Den, a cave below the Moores Knob



Cascade Falls at Hanging Rock State Park

bank, said to have been occupied by Tories (colonists loyal to the king) during the Revolutionary War. **Continue on Moores Springs Road past Moores Springs to N.C. 89 West.**

For a side trip, turn right to venture into Danbury, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, for a peek at an upper piedmont/mountain town. Founded in 1849, Danbury is located on the Dan River at the foot of the Sauratown Mountains. It was named for former Gov. Alexander Martin's plantation, located in neighboring Rockingham County. The community was originally an American Indian village, which became a trading post called Crawford. Before the Civil War a major iron foundry was located here,

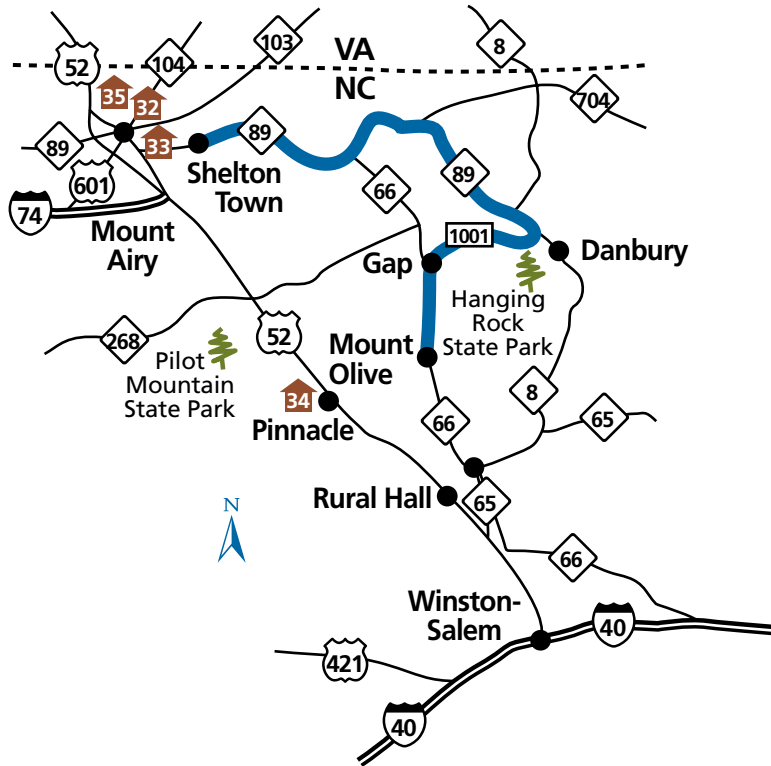
and North Carolina's tribute block in the Washington monument came from an area quarry. Today, Danbury is the seat of Stokes County.

Return to the byway by following N.C. 89 West and continue through the Sauratown Mountains and into Surry County. Named for the Saura Indians who once inhabited the area, these mountains are some of the oldest mountains in North America. **The byway's eastern end is at McBride Road (S.R. 1742) in the Shelton Town community east of Mount Airy.** Mount Airy is the basis for the fictional town of Mayberry in "The Andy Griffith Show," and many tributes to this television classic can be found here.

A sheet granite quarry is located on the northeast side of town. Granite from this quarry was used in the Wright Brothers National Memorial Monument in Kill Devil Hills on the state's Outer Banks. Nearby attractions include Pilot Mountain State Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway. Pilot Mountain is an isolated peak, a quartzite monadnock remnant from the erosion of the Sauratown Mountains. It was once called "Mount Ararat," from which the Ararat River flows. The closest access to the Blue Ridge Parkway is about 15 miles north of Mount Airy in Fancy Gap, Va.



**Length: 38 miles**  
**Drive Time: One hour**  
**Counties: Stokes and Surry**





# COLONIAL HERITAGE BYWAY

The Colonial Heritage Byway provides an impressive tour of 18th and 19th century history in North Carolina. **Begin following the byway**

**from its western end in the Guilford County town of Monticello and follow N.C. 150 East through Williamsburg to Locust Hill. About 1.5 miles past Locust Hill, turn right onto U.S. 158 East and follow five miles into Yanceyville,**

the Caswell County seat. Established in 1791 as Caswell Court House, the name was changed in 1833 to honor then state legislator Bartlett Yancey.

**Turn right onto Main Street (S.R. 1163). Continue on Main Street and turn left onto N.C. 62 North.** Look for many older houses and barns dating back to the 1800s in Milton. Prior to the Civil War, Milton was a booming community with two newspapers and a branch of the state bank. **Turn right onto N.C. 57 South toward Semora, where the byway turns right again onto N.C. 119 South, and travel four miles before turning right onto Stephentown Road (S.R. 1564). Watch carefully for this turn; it appears quickly as the road rises and curves to the left.**

**Follow Stephentown Road six miles before turning right onto U.S. 158 West and follow two miles. At N.C.**

**86, turn left and travel south nearly 24 miles.** This portion of the byway provides a glimpse of piedmont dairy farms and

rural life. Look for a white brick building to the right while passing through the Hightowers community and a red brick building to the left in Prospect Hill. These are examples of general stores of the mid-1800s and are still in use today.

**Just north of Hillsborough, turn left onto Governor Burke Drive (S.R. 1619). Stop and look carefully before crossing the intersection of N.C. 57 where the state road number changes to 1556 and becomes unpaved.** The grave of

Gov. Thomas Burke, who served from 1781–1782 as the third North Carolina governor elected by the General Assembly, lies in a tree grove to the left about three quarters of a mile from N.C. 57.

**When the road ends, turn right onto Miller Road (S.R. 1555) and continue 1.5 miles through a residential area, crossing U.S. 70. Turn right onto St. Mary's Road (S.R. 1002), which becomes East King Street (S.R. 1150).** Settled in 1754, Hillsborough, the Orange County seat, was once North Carolina's summer capital. Public tours of the historic district begin at the visitor's center located on the corner of King and Cameron streets.



Orange County Courthouse



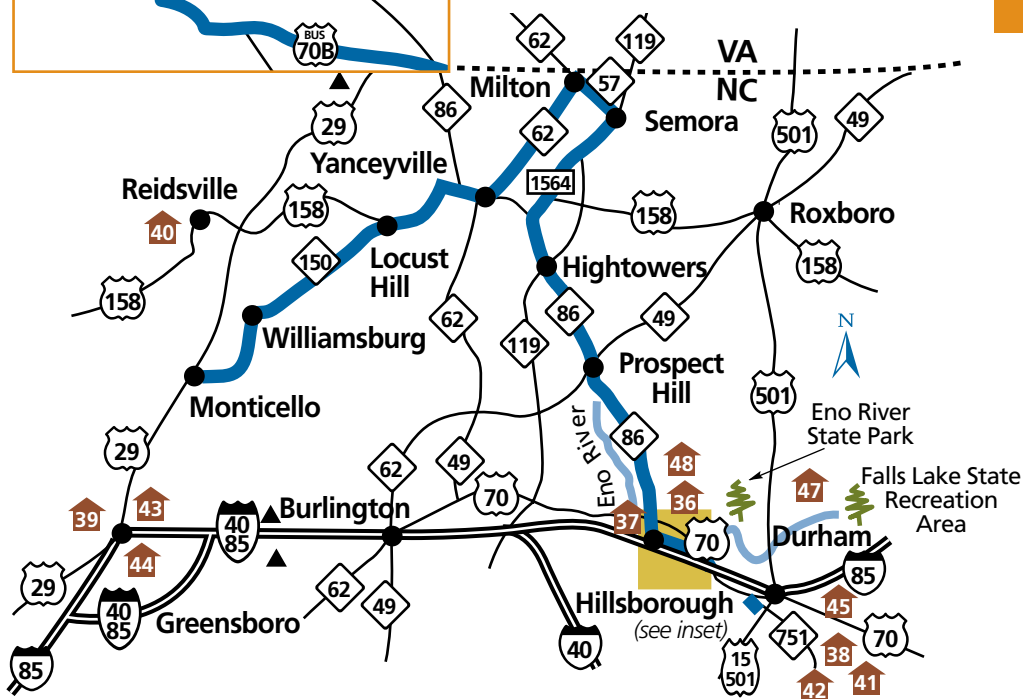
Durham was first established as a railroad stop on donated land from Dr. Bartlett Snipes Durham.



**Counties:** *Durham, Caswell,  
Guilford, Orange  
and Rockingham*



**Note: The route is not recommended for recreational vehicles or buses.**



# FOOTBALL ROAD

Named for the route Triad football fans used to travel to football games at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Football Road showcases the beauty of North Carolina's piedmont between the Triad and Triangle metropolitan areas.

**To access the byway, take Exit 126 off I-85 Business in Greensboro and travel south along U.S. 421 to Alamance Church Road (S.R. 1005). Turn left onto Alamance Church Road and travel eight miles to the intersection of Blakeshire Road (S.R. 3334), the byway's western terminus.**

Traveling along the byway, motorists will see small dairy farms, creeks, ponds and bicyclists, since most of the route is designated as a recreational bicycle route. At the N.C. 62 intersection, history enthusiasts may want to take a quick side trip to the Alamance Battleground State Historic Site located about 4.5 miles east along N.C. 62. The Alamance Battleground is the 1771 site where the North Carolina militia, led by Gov. William Tryon, defeated the Regulators. Regulators were North

Carolinians who wanted to see the government regulated to prevent further extortion and corruption.

## **As the byway enters Alamance**

**County, the road name changes to Old Greensboro Road. Continue another seven miles to Snow Camp, where the road becomes Sylvan School Road. Turn left onto Drama Road (S.R. 2407) and follow it for a short distance before making a left back onto Sylvan School Road (S.R. 2360)**



NCDOT

Snow Camp

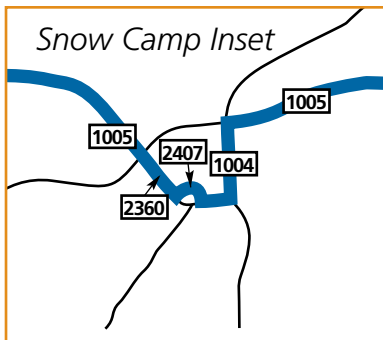
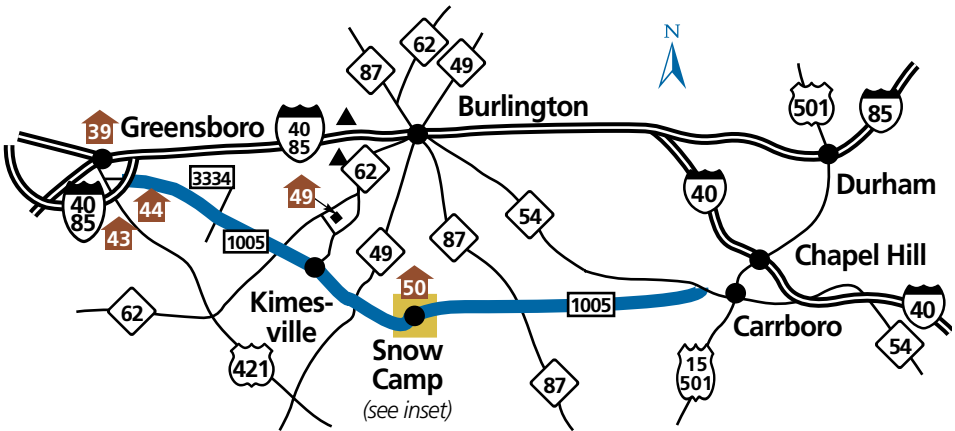
**before turning right onto Snow Camp Road (S.R. 1004).** Originally a Quaker community, Snow Camp was settled in 1749. The local outdoor drama, "The Sword of Peace," portrays the plight of Quakers in this area during the Revolutionary War.

**After passing through Snow Camp, turn right onto Greensboro/Chapel Hill Road (S.R. 1005) and follow it for eight miles.** The byway crosses the Haw River at the Alamance/Orange County line. This river rises in Forsyth County and flows 130 miles before merging with the Deep River to form the Cape Fear River.

In Orange County, the road name changes back to Old Greensboro Road (S.R. 1005). Travel another eight miles and veer left after crossing a small lake, onto Jones Ferry Road (S.R. 1005). Follow Jones Ferry Road into the town of Carrboro where the byway ends at the intersection with N.C. 54.



**Length: 37 miles**  
**Drive Time: 45 minutes**  
**Counties: Alamance, Guilford and Orange**



# CROWDERS MOUNTAIN DRIVE

The Crowders Mountain Drive takes motorists by Crowders and Kings mountains in Gaston and Cleveland counties.

**To begin following the byway, take Exit 10 from I-85 and follow U.S. 29/74 to the community of Mountain View. Exit onto Sparrow Springs Road (S.R. 1125), where the route begins.**

**Follow Sparrow Springs Road and turn right onto Pinnacle Road (S.R. 1104)** as they wind around the base of Crowders and Kings mountains. Crowders Mountain, named for a local settler, is one of the peaks in the Kings Mountain Range. The mountain range is about three miles long, extending from the southern end of Gaston and Cleveland counties in North Carolina into York County, S.C. The highest peak, called the Pinnacle, marks the northern end of the range. Its weathered granite cap, called a monadnock, stands above the other peaks as a king stands above his people.

**Continue on Sparrow Springs Road as it veers right into the area around**

**Crowders Mountain State Park.** The park showcases the local mountains, which are remnants of the ancient Appalachians.

Outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy hiking or rock climbing in the park.

**Continue following the byway by turning right to stay on Sparrow Springs Road for two miles, and then right again onto Pinnacle Road.** The first



Canoeing at Crowders Mountain State Park

mile is gravel.

Formed in 1841, Cleveland County was named for Benjamin Cleveland, a hero at the Battle of Kings Mountain during the Revolutionary War. Kings Mountain National Military Park, located in South Carolina, is the site of that decisive British defeat in 1780. The valley is also known as Sherrars Gap and separates the Pinnacle from the rest of the Kings Mountain Range.

**Pinnacle Road changes to Lake Montonia Road (S.R. 2292)** at the Cleveland/Gaston County line. **Follow this road for about one mile where it intersects with N.C. 161. Turn right onto N.C. 161 North for one-half mile to I-85 where the byway ends.** For an



A map of the western portion of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The map shows the North Carolina-South Carolina border as a dashed line at the bottom. Major roads include US Highway 85 running diagonally from the top left to the top right, and US Highway 29 running diagonally from the top right to the bottom left. State Routes 161, 74, 29, 1125, 1106, 1104, and 2292 are also marked. Landmarks include Crowders Mountain State Park, Kings Mountain, and Mountain View. A blue line indicates a trail or road winding through the park. A north arrow is located in the upper right. Icons for a yellow triangle, a green tree, and a black mountain peak are present.

# MILL BRIDGE SCENIC BYWAY

The Mill Bridge Scenic Byway  
**begins south of historic Salisbury on  
Sherrills Ford Road (S.R. 1526) at the  
intersection  
of N.C. 150  
in Rowan**

**County.** The  
seven-mile  
stretch of  
Sherrills Ford  
Road passes  
the Piedmont  
Agricultural  
Research  
Station, a test-  
farming facility

operated by N.C. State University  
and an excellent example of North  
Carolina farmland.

**Turn left onto White Road (S.R.  
1737)** and pass over a one-lane bridge  
and through the community of Mill  
Bridge, which was named for the flourmill  
built by Dr. Samuel Kerr. This Scotch-Irish  
settlement features Thyatira Church, one  
of North Carolina's oldest Presbyterian  
churches. **Continue 3.2 miles and turn  
right onto N.C. 150 West.** At this point,  
motorists may choose to visit the Kerr  
Mill at Sloan Park, a short side trip down  
Sloan Road (S.R. 1768). The park features  
a restored 1823 mill with a working  
waterwheel and is a great place to relax  
and take a break.

Visitors may also enjoy a side trip to the  
Lazy Five Ranch, just six miles farther along  
N.C. 150 West. The Lazy Five Ranch is a

privately operated, drive-through animal  
park on 185 rolling acres. Nearly 450 exotic  
animals from across the world, including

zebras,  
ostriches,  
antelope, bison  
and reindeer,  
can be seen  
during the 3.5-  
mile drive.

**To  
continue on  
the byway  
from N.C.  
150, take a  
quick left**

**onto Mill Bridge Road (S.R. 1350). The  
Mill Bridge Scenic Byway extends  
another three miles through peaceful  
rural farmland before ending at the  
intersection with Brown Road (S.R.  
1211).** This road is also home to several  
pick-your-own fruit and vegetable farms.



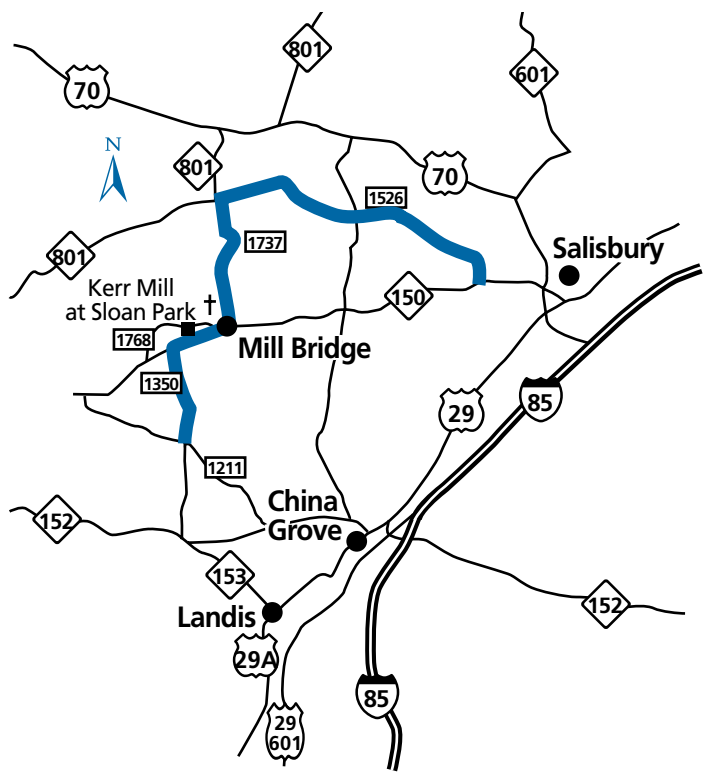
Photo courtesy of Yadkin/Pee Dee Lakes Project

Kerr Mill at Sloan Park



**Length: 14 miles  
Drive Time: 25 minutes  
County: Rowan**





# UWHARRIE SCENIC ROAD

The Uwharrie Scenic Road takes motorists through both the Uwharrie Mountains and the area known as the “Carolina Slate Belt” along N.C. 49 between Charlotte and Asheboro.

**Begin following the route at the byway’s northern end at the intersection of N.C. 49 and U.S. 64. Travel south along N.C. 49 toward**

**Concord.** Many buildings and fences seen throughout these rolling hills were built from slate, a type of metamorphic rock.

South of Asheboro, travel through the Uwharrie National Forest and view the Uwharrie Mountains. These isolated peaks were formed several hundred million years ago by volcanoes, and the mountains have survived erosion and weathering over the centuries. *Uwharrie* is believed to have originated from an American Indian word possibly meaning “rocky soil.” The federal government bought the Uwharrie National Forest in 1934 and designated it a national forest in 1961. It now covers more than 200,000 acres in Randolph and Montgomery counties and a small portion

of Davidson County. The Uwharrie River flows into the Yadkin River near Morrow Mountain State Park to form the Pee Dee

River. A variety of crops such as corn and winter wheat can be seen throughout this region.

**The byway passes over Tuckertown Lake,** built by the Carolina Aluminum Co. for hydroelectricity and recreation in 1917. It is also known as

Narrows Reservoir because it was formed by flooding a narrow pass (now under the lake’s waters) in the Uwharrie Mountains at the Narrows of the Yadkin River. The Pee Dee Valley Drive (pg. 78) begins nearby at the southern point of Badin Lake in the community of Badin.

For an interesting side trip, visit the Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site. This mine was the site of the first authenticated discovery of gold in the United States. Gold was found on the Reed family farm in 1799. This find helped North Carolina lead the country in gold production until the California gold rush in 1848. Reed Gold Mine is located about eight miles south of Mount Pleasant.



NCDOT

Reed Gold Mine

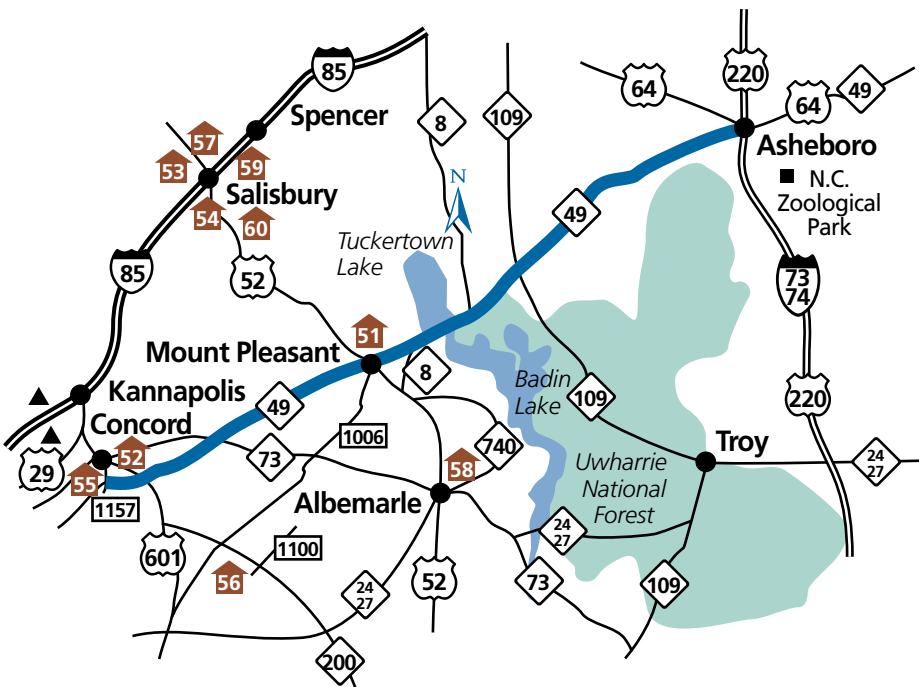
To visit the mine as a side trip, follow Mount Pleasant Road (S.R. 1006) south from N.C. 49. Turn left onto N.C. 200, and follow it for one mile and then turn right onto Reed Mine Road (S.R. 1100).

History buffs will also enjoy a side trip to the Denton Farm Park in Davidson County. The park is home to an impressive collection of restored buildings, including country stores, a church, post office and gristmill. The park is also home to the annual Threshers' Convention, a large steam, gas and electric farm machinery show. To get there from N.C. 49, turn left onto Cranford Road (S.R. 2521) and head north. Denton Farm Park is less than a mile on the left.

Continue past Mount Pleasant toward Concord. **The byway ends on N.C. 49 at its intersection with Old Charlotte Road (S.R. 1157).**



**Length: 50 miles**  
**Drive Time: One hour**  
**Counties: Randolph, Davidson, Rowan, Stanly and Cabarrus**



# ROLLING KANSAS BYWAY



NCDDOT

Bethel Bear Creek United Church of Christ graveyard

The Rolling Kansas Byway passes through an area known appropriately as “Rolling Kansas,” so nicknamed because of its hilly terrain and turn of the century farms and windmills.

**Access the byway from U.S. 52 in Richfield by turning onto South Main Street (S.R. 1134), which becomes Millingport Road. Follow the road for six miles** through the wavering countryside with panoramic views of the western piedmont. **Turn right onto Bear Creek Church Road (S.R. 1428) and cross a bridge.** The byway then passes near Bethel Bear Creek United Church of Christ and its graveyard, which has tombstones dating to the 1820s and is among the oldest cemeteries in Stanly County. The byway ends at the Cabarrus/Stanly County line.



***Length: 9 miles***  
***Drive Time: 20 minutes***  
***County: Stanly***



# PEE DEE VALLEY DRIVE

The Pee Dee Valley Drive parallels the route of the Pee Dee River as it flows southward from Badin Lake to Lake Tillery. **To access the byway's northern terminus, follow N.C. 740 from Albemarle to Badin and turn onto Nantahala Street (S.R. 1714). Shortly thereafter, turn right onto Henderson Street (S.R. 1720). The byway begins at Badin Elementary School on Henderson Street.** While traveling south the road number remains the same, but the name changes to Valley Drive at the intersection just past the elementary school. **Follow Valley Drive (S.R. 1720) for 5.5 miles south toward the intersection of N.C. 24/27/73.**

Badin was established in 1913 by French industrialist Adrian Badin as a company town for the aluminum reduction plant he operated nearby. Today, this plant is owned by the Aluminum Corporation of America, or Alcoa. Badin is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is noted for its unique French-inspired townhouses (called quadrexes), which are among the earliest examples of townhouse architecture in North Carolina.

The byway travels through the Pee

Dee River Valley located several miles to the east. The Pee Dee River, formed at the junction of the Yadkin and Uwharrie rivers,

flows into and through South Carolina, where it empties into the Atlantic Ocean. Sometimes called the Great Pee Dee River, the name originates from the Catawba Indian word for "smart, capable or expert."

A quick side trip on Morrow Mountain Road (S.R. 1798) takes motorists into Morrow Mountain State Park. From the upper parking lot, visitors can enjoy

a panoramic view of Badin Lake to the north and Lake Tillery to the south. Badin Lake was built by the Carolina Aluminum Co. for hydroelectric power and recreation in 1917.

Morrow Mountain State Park was established in 1935 on land given to the state by James McKnight Morrow. The park has more than 30 miles of hiking and equestrian trails open to the public. Visit the restored residence of Dr. Francis Joseph Kron who had a medical practice here in the early 1800s. Until that time the mountain had been called Naked Mountain because a tornado stripped the mountain bare. There are three peaks: Sugarloaf Mountain, Mill Mountain and



Photo courtesy of Yadkin/Pee Dee Lakes Project

Town of Badin



Tater Top Mountain. The peaks are each less than 1,050 feet high and part of the Uwharrie Mountain Range. These mountains were created in a prehistoric collision between the African and North American continents. They are considered to be the oldest mountains in North America.

**After visiting the park, turn left to continue along Valley Drive to the intersection of N.C. 24/27/73 East and turn left.** This section of highway is part of the Sandhills Scenic Drive byway (pg. 82). **Follow about two miles before turning right onto Indian Mound Road (S.R. 1740). Follow Indian Mound Road** (not to be confused with Town Creek Indian Mound, along the Indian Heritage Trail byway, pg. 88) **for six miles along Lake Tillery to Norwood.**

**The byway's southern end is on U.S. 52 in Norwood.** Founded in 1826, Norwood was named for William Norwood, its first postmaster. The town is located near Lake Tillery, which has sometimes been called Lake Norwood.



**Length: 14 miles**  
**Drive Time: 30 minutes**  
**County: Stanly**



# GRASSY ISLAND CROSSING

The Grassy Island Crossing byway is named for Grassy Island, a group of earthen masses in the Pee Dee River north of Blewett Falls

Lake along the Anson/Richmond County line.

**The byway's western terminus is located at the intersection of U.S. 52 and Pinkston River Road**

**(S.R. 1627) in Anson County.**

**Travel south on Pinkston River Road** through the pines, hardwoods, swamps and farms along the banks of the Pee Dee River **nearly five miles before turning left onto Grassy Island Road (S.R. 1634).**

For an interesting side trip, visit the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge located on Grassy Island Road. The refuge, North Carolina's only inland wildlife refuge, features a self-guided auto tour and hiking trail through a migratory bird habitat. A waterfowl observation blind allows for up-close viewing of bird species native to or passing through the region. The refuge's office and visitor center are located on U.S. 52, three miles south of Ansonville.

**To continue following the byway, travel 4.5 miles along Grassy Island Road and turn left onto N.C. 109**

**North. Travel an additional mile before crossing the Pee Dee River,** formed by the junction of the Yadkin and Uwharrie

rivers in Montgomery County. Flowing south along the Anson/Richmond County line and into South Carolina, the Pee Dee River empties into Winyah Bay.



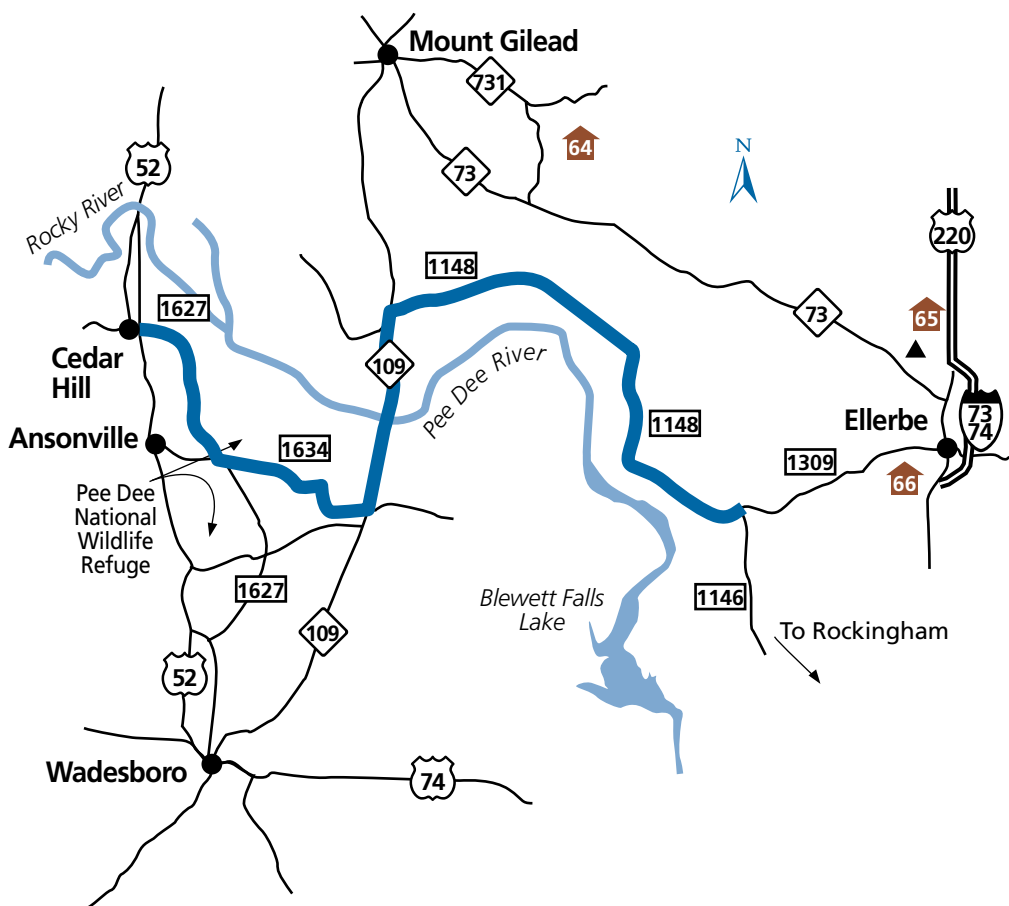
Lindsay R. Wichard

Pee Dee River

**Cross the river into Richmond County. Travel 2.5 miles and turn right onto a different Grassy Island Road (S.R. 1148).** This 13-mile road features the geological transition between the lowland piedmont region to the Uwharrie Mountain expanse. Blewett Falls Lake lies to the south and west. There are boat ramps and fishing access points on the lake. **The byway's eastern end lies northwest of Rockingham at the intersection with Holly Grove Church Road (S.R. 1146).**



**Length: 26 miles**  
**Drive Time: 40 minutes**  
**Counties: Anson and Richmond**



# SANDHILLS SCENIC DRIVE

North Carolina's Sandhills are a series of low rolling hills located between the Cape Fear and Pee Dee rivers. Settled by Scottish highlanders about 1740, the area was named for the coarse, sandy soil prevalent in this region. The Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in the Moore County



Lindsay R. Whitchard

N.C. 24/27 crossing the Pee Dee River/Lake Tillery

town of Southern Pines houses the last remaining cluster of ancient long-leaf pines in this area. These pine trees covered the Sandhills until they were nearly destroyed by logging in 1895. The pines are a showcase for the preserve's hardwood swamp forest, which also contains rare plants and animals. The former long-leaf pine forests have regenerated with the faster growing short-leaf pine.

**Begin following the byway in Carthage,** the Moore County seat, and **take N.C. 24/27 West to Biscoe.** Along the way, enjoy views of fertile farmlands and rolling hills while passing the state's pottery center to the north and golf resort communities to the south. Founded in 1796, Carthage is located in an area settled by Scots from the Cape Fear region in the mid-18th century. **After leaving Carthage, travel 1.5 miles and cross**

**Killeets Creek,** which is named for an early settler who lived west of town. **Soon after, cross McLendon's Creek and continue another seven miles to the community of Garners Store,** where the Pottery Road byway (pg. 90) crosses on N.C. 705. **From this crossroads, it**

**is 14 miles to the town of Biscoe.**

Incorporated in 1901, Biscoe was first known as Filo. The name was changed in 1895 to honor a local businessman. **From Biscoe, travel four miles to the Little River,** which flows south to join the Pee Dee River. **From the bridge, continue for three miles to the town of Troy.**

Troy is Montgomery County's seat and was incorporated in 1843. It is believed that the town was named for either Robert Troy, a member of the House of Commons, or John B. Troy, an educator and member of the N.C. General Assembly. Troy is located on the eastern border of the Uwharrie National Forest, purchased by the federal government in 1934 and established as a national forest in 1961. The forest covers more than 200,000 acres in Randolph and Montgomery counties and a small portion of Davidson County.

**Leave Troy on N.C. 24/27 West and travel through the Uwharrie National Forest for the next 11 miles to N.C.**

**73.** Approaching the Pee Dee River, both Horse Trough and Shelter Mountain in the Uwharrie Mountains are visible on either side of the route. These isolated peaks have withstood erosion and weathering over thousands of years. (For more detail, see the Uwharrie Scenic Road on pg. 74.)

**Also on N.C. 24/27, about eight miles past Troy, pass the trailhead for the 20-mile Uwharrie Trail.** This national recreational trail follows a north-south route and passes over the Uwharrie Mountains. It is the longest hiking trail located between North Carolina's mountains and coast.

After passing the trailhead, cross the Pee Dee River and Lake Tillery into Stanly County. Lake Tillery, to the left, is used for hydroelectric energy and as a popular recreational destination. While crossing the river, notice that Stony Mountain frames the path of the Pee Dee River's west shore. About one mile after crossing the lake, this byway joins with the Pee Dee Valley Drive (pg. 78) between Indian Mound

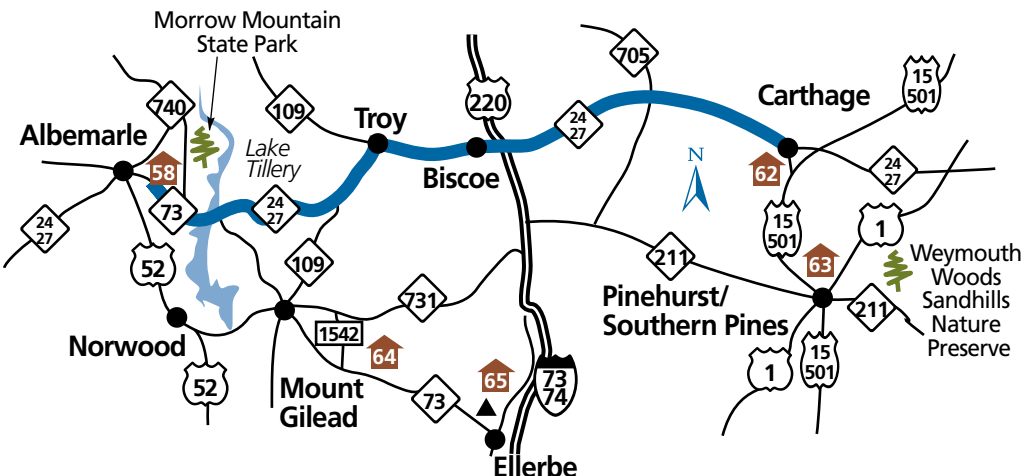
Road (S.R. 1740) and Valley Drive (S.R. 1720). **From Valley Drive, it is a little more than a mile to the intersection of N.C. 24/27/73 at Sweet Home Church Road (S.R. 1731) where the route ends just outside the Albemarle city limits.**

Albemarle is the Stanly County seat and was named for George Monck, Duke of Albemarle and a lords proprietor of the Carolina Colony in 1663.

For a side trip from Albemarle into Montgomery County (about 15 miles), take N.C. 109 or N.C. 73 South to Mount Gilead. From there, travel along N.C. 731 East to Indian Mound Road (S.R. 1542), which leads to Town Creek Indian Mound. For more information on this state historic site, see Indian Heritage Trail (pg. 88).



**Length: 46 miles**  
**Drive Time: One hour**  
**Counties: Montgomery, Moore and Stanly**



# BIRKHEAD WILDERNESS ROUTE

The Birkhead Wilderness Route features the Uwharrie Mountains, considered

by some experts to be the oldest mountains in North America. This byway is specifically named after the Birkhead Mountains

Wilderness, a remote section of the Uwharrie National Forest covering 4,800 acres in southern Randolph County. The rugged area offers a more remote experience with fewer visitor amenities than other sections of the Uwharrie National Forest.

**The Birkhead Wilderness Route begins along the northern reaches of the Uwharrie Mountains at the intersection of High Pines Church Road (S.R. 1143) and Hopewell Friends Road (S.R. 1142) in Randolph County. Traveling south along the long and winding High Pines Church Road, notice that the valley is bordered on both sides by the Uwharrie National Forest. After 9.4 miles, the byway reaches the crossroads community of Lassiter Mill.**

Several hiking trails can be accessed within the vicinity of Lassiter Mill. The

Birkhead Mountain, Robbins Branch and Hannah's Creek trails wind through 10

miles of the wilderness area. Evidence of pioneer settlement — old homesteads, crumbling chimneys and gold mining activity

— can still be seen here. To reach the trailhead of Robbins Branch Trail, turn right onto Lassiter Mill Road (S.R. 1107). Parking and the trailhead are on the right, two miles north of the crossroads.

**From Lassiter Mill, follow High Pines Church Road another 4.5 miles to continue along the byway until the route ends at New Hope Church Road (S.R. 1181).**

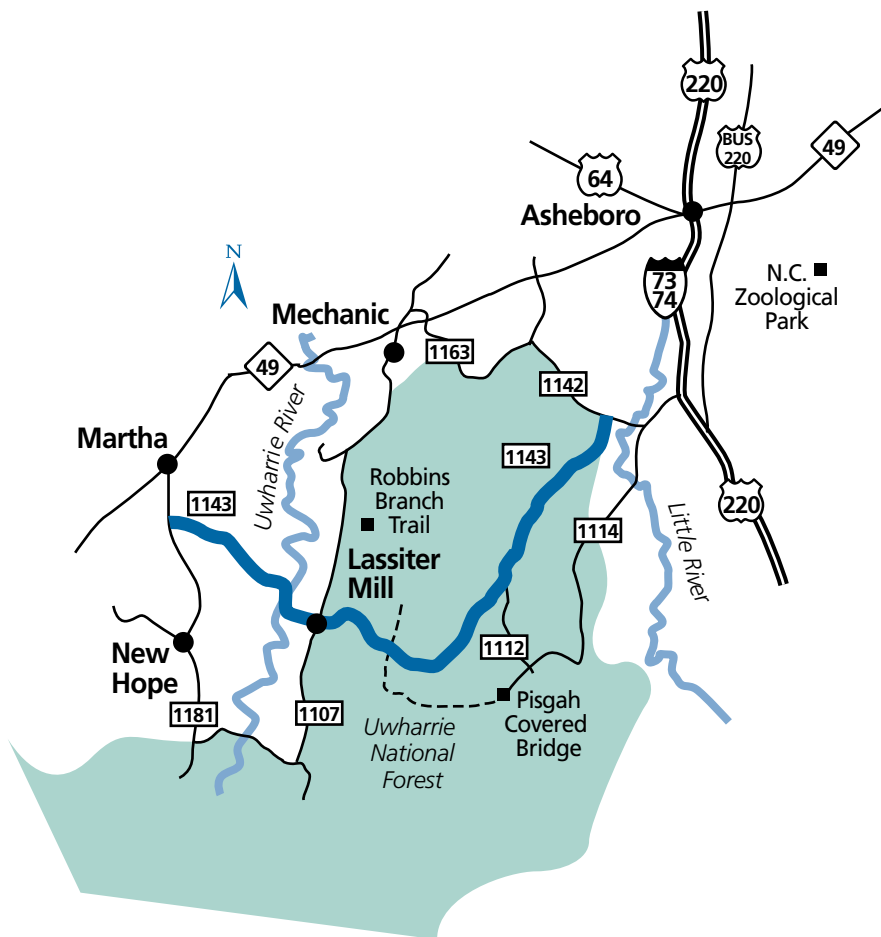


Baled hay along the Birkhead Wilderness Route



***Length: 14 miles  
Drive Time: 25 minutes  
County: Randolph***





# FLINT HILL RAMBLE

The remote yet beautiful **Flint Hill Ramble** begins on **Flint Hill Road (S.R. 1306)**, just northeast of the **Uwharrie community** in **Montgomery County**. To access the byway, turn onto **Ophir Road (S.R. 1303)** from **N.C. 109** in **Uwharrie**. Travel along this road five miles before reaching the **Ophir community**. This area was settled in the mid-1800s during the area's gold boom. **Ophir** is named for the Biblical place where gold was produced for King Solomon's temple. **Once in Ophir, turn right onto Flint Hill Road**. This road's turns along with its scenic views give motorists the feeling that they are riding in the Great Smoky Mountains. A shaded parking area and trailhead for the **Uwharrie National Recreational Trail** is located two miles down this road. The trailhead marks the northern end of the 20-mile trail that begins on **N.C. 24/27** along the **Sandhills Scenic Drive** (pg. 82). A short hike up the trail reveals a striking view of the surrounding **Uwharrie Mountains**, believed by experts to be the oldest mountain chain in North America.

Lindsay R. Whitchard



"Jumping-Off Rock"

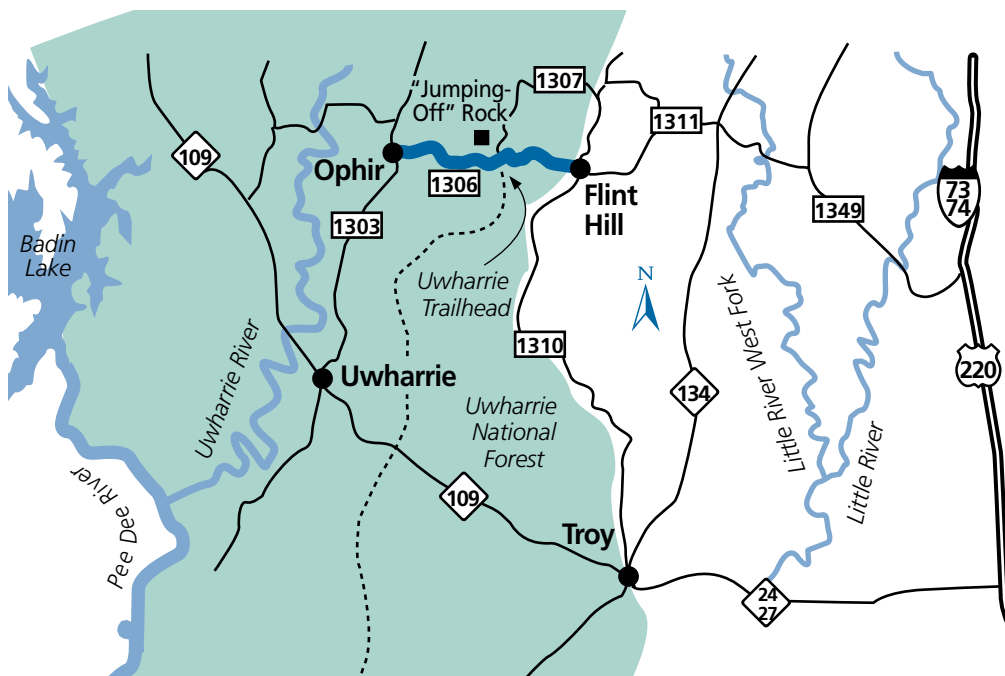
**Continue along Flint Hill Road a short distance to a turn-off on the left.**

A quick stroll from the car will lead to what is locally known as "Jumping-Off Rock." This rocky bluff overlooks a cascading stream and the surrounding **Uwharrie National Forest**. For safety reasons, jumping off "Jumping-Off Rock" is strongly discouraged. **The Flint Hill Ramble ends where Flint Hill Road intersects with Lovejoy Road (S.R. 1310)**. Turning right onto **Lovejoy Road** will lead back

to **N.C. 109** and the town of **Troy**, the **Montgomery County** seat.



**Length: 5 miles**  
**Drive Time: 10 minutes**  
**County: Montgomery**



# INDIAN HERITAGE TRAIL

The Indian Heritage Trail byway explores a part of North Carolina's rich American Indian heritage. **To begin following the byway from**

**its eastern end, travel to Millstone Road (S.R. 1452)**

**in Richmond County and follow it into Ellerbe.** Once known as the "Fair Grounds," Ellerbe received its present name

after W.T. Ellerbe developed the nearby recreational and health facility, Ellerbe Springs.

**In Ellerbe, turn right onto U.S. 220 North (Church Street) to follow the byway.** With one of the state's most extensive American Indian collections, the Rankin Museum of American Heritage is a quick side trip easily accessible by continuing straight across the intersection of Millstone and Church streets. The museum is two blocks on the left.

**Traveling north on U.S. 220 from Ellerbe, motorists will pass through North Carolina's prime peach-growing region.** Depending on the season, several fruit and vegetable stands may be open along this section of byway. **Leaving Ellerbe, travel one mile and turn left onto N.C. 73 North.** A N.C. Department of Transportation rest area with picnic

tables is located to the right.

The Historic Ellerbe Springs Inn and Restaurant, home of a once-famous

mineral spring resort and spa, is located one half-mile farther north on U.S. 220. **The byway continues 11.5 miles on N.C. 73 North** through the Piedmont heartland and passes by the

farm of one-time professional wrestler and legend, Andre the Giant. **Turn right onto Indian Mound Road (S.R. 1160) and cross into Montgomery County where the state road number changes to 1542.**

The Town Creek Indian Mound State Historic Site is 1.5 miles on the right. This archeological site was an important ceremonial center for the Creek Indians of the Pee Dee culture, some 300 to 400 years ago. Visitors can tour the reconstructed temples and see various exhibits. **The byway ends where Indian Mound Road intersects with N.C. 731, just east of Mount Gilead.**



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Town Creek Indian Mound



**Length: 18 miles**  
**Drive Time: 35 minutes**  
**Counties: Richmond and Montgomery**



# POTTERY ROAD

The Pottery Road byway takes motorists from North Carolina's Sandhills to its Piedmont through an area known worldwide for beautiful pottery. **The route's southern terminus begins near the golf resort community of Pinehurst** in Moore County. Pinehurst, established in 1895 and named for its location in a pine forest, was the host of both the 1999 and 2005 U.S. Open golf tournaments. In the 18th century, seven families from Staffordshire, England, the pottery center of England, settled within a five-mile radius of each other near the northwest corner of Moore County. Today, their descendants continue to make both traditional and modern pottery forms. There are nearly 80 potteries in the vicinity of this byway and several directly along the route.

From Pinehurst, **begin following the byway by taking N.C. 211 North for 11.5 miles to the intersection with N.C. 705 near Eagle Springs.** Established in 1890, Eagle Springs was named for a mineral spring owned by the Eagle family. **Turn right onto N.C. 705 West** and note the old cedar trees lining the first part of this route where the byway begins. This portion of the road is known locally as

"Cedar Lane." **Continue on N.C. 705 West for nine miles** to the intersection with N.C. 24/27 in the Garners Store

community. At this intersection the byway crosses the Sandhills Scenic Drive (pg. 82).

**Continue three miles north to the town of Robbins.**

Formerly called by a variety of names including Mechanics Hill, Mechanicsville, Elise and Hemp, Robbins was settled sometime prior to 1828. The earlier names came from a

mechanic and gunsmith who lived here. Located on the old plank road (built between 1849 and 1854) from Fayetteville to Salem, Robbins was given its current name in 1943 for the owner of a local textile mill. The town is also near the site of what was once one of the world's largest talc mines. **In Robbins, watch carefully as N.C. 705 makes a turn that can be difficult to see.** Leaving Robbins, travel three miles west on N.C. 705 to North Howard Mill Road (S.R. 1456). Here the byway intersects with the Devil's Stompin' Ground Road (pg. 92).

**From this intersection, continue nearly 4.5 miles to the community of Westmoore.** A rest area is located just prior to the town on the left. It was



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Potter at work



near Westmoore that the first potters settled. Located 2.5 miles northeast of Westmoore on Jugtown Road (S.R. 1420) off Busbee Road (S.R. 1419) is the Jugtown community. It was established in 1920 by Raleigh artist Jacques Busbee, who made and distributed his pottery nationally from here.

**From Westmoore, continue 5.5 miles west on N.C. 705** into Randolph County and the Whynot community. Whynot received its name because residents could not decide on a name for the post office —“Why not this?... Why not that?... Whynot!” **Travel one-half mile west to Seagrove, where the byway ends.**

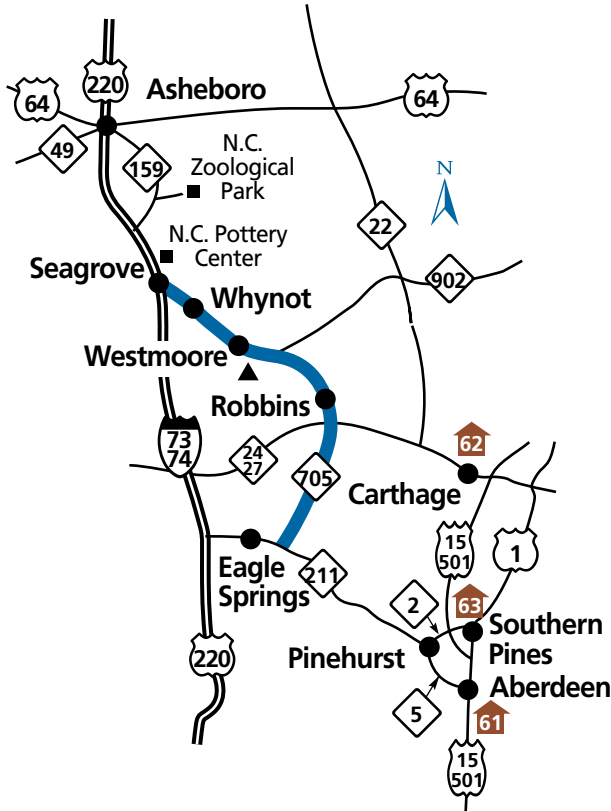
Seagrove was incorporated in 1913 and named for a local railroad official. The N.C. Pottery Center can provide detailed

information on the numerous local potters in Seagrove.

Seagrove is about nine miles south of the N.C. Zoological Park in Asheboro and is accessible by taking U.S. 220 North to N.C. 159. Other attractions near the route include Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve in Southern Pines. The preserve houses the last remaining stand of ancient long-leaf pines, which covered the sandhills until they were wiped out by logging in 1895. The preserve is a showcase for hardwood swamp forests and includes unique plants and animals, some of which are endangered species.



**Length: 43 miles**  
**Drive Time: 50 minutes**  
**Counties: Moore and Randolph**



# DEVIL'S STOMPIN' GROUND ROAD

The Devil's Stompin' Ground Road extends from the courthouse in the Chatham County seat of Pittsboro through the farmlands and forests of the lower piedmont and across N.C. 22 to N.C. 705, north of Robbins in Moore County.

**Begin the route from the Chatham County Courthouse in Pittsboro by following U.S. 64 Business West and turning left onto N.C. 902 West.**

**902 West.** Travel by Round Top Mountain across the Rocky River and through an area known as "The Devil's Stompin' Grounds" near the community of Bear Creek.

The legend behind the byway's name begins with a tale of a worn, circular path in a local clearing. According to local residents, the path is worn because of the devil's pacing and his plotting of new forms of evil to afflict the good in the world. The clearing itself sits off the byway, and local residents can provide specific directions to the site.

**Continue to follow the byway and cross over U.S. 421.** This portion of the byway passes 10 miles north of the House in the Horseshoe State Historic Site. The house is accessible by traveling U.S. 421

South to Goldston and then following signs to the house. Built around 1770, the house is named for its location in a bend

along the Deep River and is the site of a Revolutionary War skirmish between the Whigs and the Tories.

**After crossing the N.C. 22/42 intersection, N.C. 902 ends and the road becomes Jerry Frye Road (S.R. 1164). Follow Jerry Frye Road into Randolph County, where the state road number changes**

**to 2280. One quarter of a mile inside Randolph County, the byway will intersect with Howard Mill Road (S.R. 2877).**

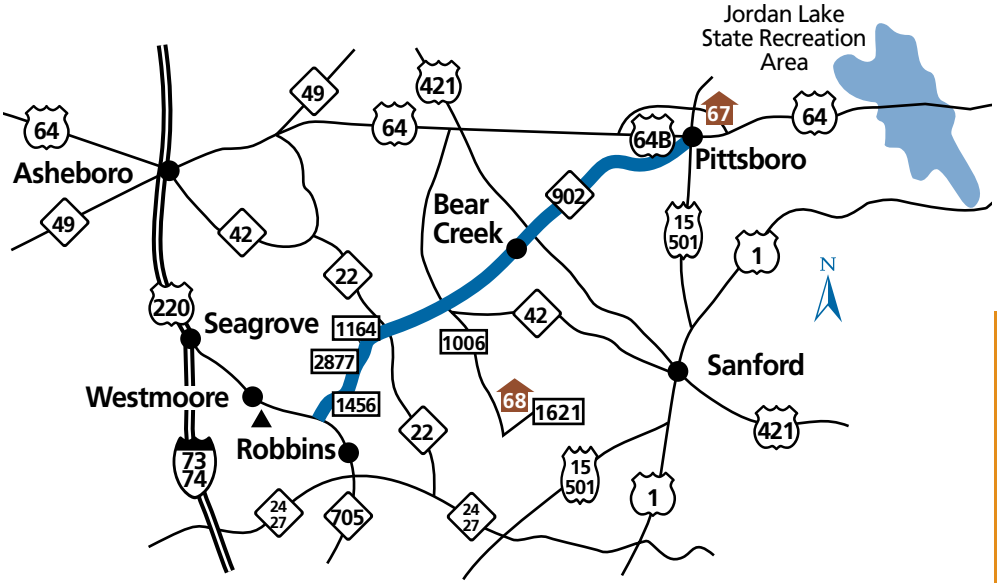
**Turn left onto Howard Mill Road and travel two miles to the Moore County line, where the road name changes to North Howard Mill Road (S.R. 1456). Continue on North Howard Mill Road for four miles through the beautiful Moore County countryside. The byway ends at the intersection of N.C. 705, which is also designated as the Pottery Road (pg. 90).**



"The Devil's Stomping Ground"



**Length: 43 miles**  
**Drive Time: 50 minutes**  
**Counties: Moore and Randolph**



# NORTH DURHAM COUNTRY BYWAY

Durham County is famous for being the home of the Research Triangle Park, Duke University and N.C. Central University. It is also known for its beautiful countryside, waterways and historic plantation farmlands. The North Durham Country Byway gives motorists a glimpse into Durham County's history as well as its forests, lakes and rivers.

**To access the byway, take Exit 182 off I-85 and travel north on Red Mill Road (S.R. 1632) for 4.5 miles. Be alert, as the route briefly turns right onto Teknika Parkway (S.R. 1794) and then left at the first stop sign to continue on Red Mill Road. Turn right on Old Highway 75 (S.R. 1004) to begin following the byway near the historic plantations of Fairintosh and Stagville.** Today, a variety of preservation and African-American history studies are conducted at Stagville, a state historic site that was once among the largest plantation holdings in the South.

**Travel along Old Highway 75 (S.R. 1004) for 1.5 miles before turning left onto Stagville Road (S.R. 1615).** After passing the Horton Grove Commercial

Center, travel almost four miles, to the town of Bahama (pronounced *bah-hay-ma*). **The byway then turns right onto Bahama Road (S.R. 1616/1607).**

Bahama's name originates from the first two letters of three prominent family names in the area — Ball, Harris and Mangum. Bahama Road travels by the

tranquil waters of Lake Michie (pronounced *mik-ee*), which offers recreational opportunities including boating, hiking and picnicking. **Travel 3.2 miles to Mount Tabor United Methodist Church** — the final resting place of Gov. William B. Umstead, who served from 1953 until his death in 1954. **Continue another 2.5 miles and turn left onto Red Mountain Road (S.R. 1471).**

*Alternate Route — While on Bahama Road, an alternate route is available through the Hill Demonstration Forest. After traveling a little more than 3.7 miles on Bahama Road, turn left onto Hampton Road (S.R. 1603), travel 1.5 miles, then turn left onto the second Wilkins Road (S.R. 1613). A quick right puts the route onto State Forest Road (S.R. 1614) and into Hill Demonstration Forest. Watch for*

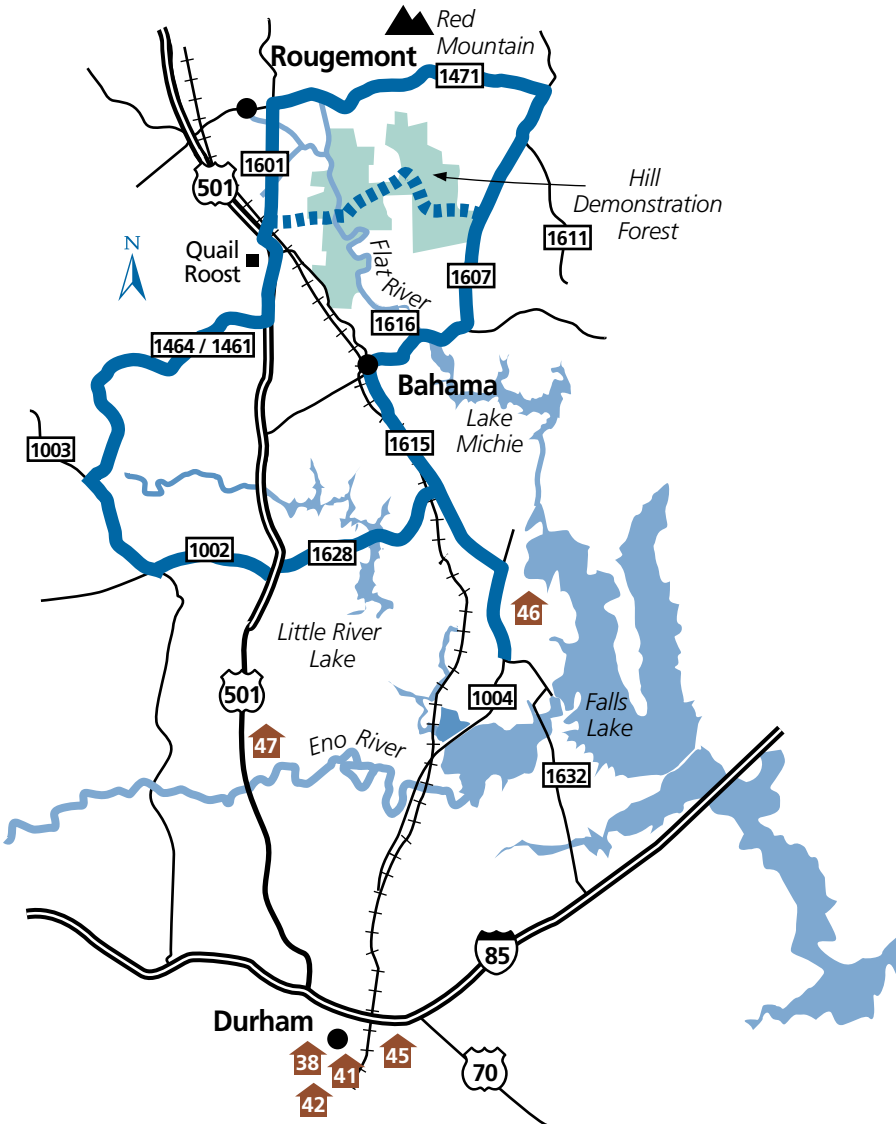


Stagville State Historic Site

water on the road and a one-lane bridge on this route. State Forest Road leads to Moores Mill Road (S.R. 1601) and back onto the byway. The forest was developed from lands donated to N.C. State University by George Watts Hill. Established in 1929, the 2,400-acre forest straddles the Flat

River and includes a one-lane bridge with views of the river. Motorists may see a wide range of birds and rare plant species. More than 200 species of birds live here, including egrets, herons, ibis and osprey.

Continuing on Red Mountain Road, motorists will enjoy a 4.5-mile segment



of rural life. Pass the Flat River, offering kayaking, fishing and hiking opportunities.

**Turn left onto Moores Mill Road (S.R.**

**1601) and follow the rolling hills to**

**U.S. 501.** After turning left onto U.S.

501 South, motorists can catch a glimpse

of Quail Roost, which was organized

as a hunt club in 1875 by influential

Durhamites. It became one of the nation's

leading stables and dairy farms and is

now the training stable and home of both

Duke University's equestrian team and the

Rougemont Red Mountain Hounds Hunt

Club. **After traveling 1.5 miles, turn**

**right onto South Lowell Road (S.R.**

**1461/1464).** This five-mile drive weaves

in and out of rolling terrain with frequent

views of farms. **The byway temporarily**

**ends at the intersection of N.C. 157**

**(Guess Road) and South Lowell Road.**

**To experience the last portion of the scenic byway, turn left onto N.C.**

**157 and travel a little more than a**

**mile.** The Great Indian Trading Path ran

through this area along present-day Snow

Hill Road (S.R. 1631), St. Mary's Street and

Mason Drive (S.R. 1992). The path was a

famous Piedmont fur and deerskin trading

route that began in 1670 and was used by

European explorers, hunters and settlers.

**Turn left onto Mason Road (S.R. 1002).**

**Follow this road to U.S. 501, turn**

**left and very shortly thereafter turn**

**right onto Orange Factory Road (S.R.**

**1628).** The byway resumes here and

continues three miles past Little River

Lake and the entrance to Treyburn

before ending at the intersection with

Stagville Road.



***Length: 27 miles***

***Drive Time: 45 minutes***

***County: Durham***



# AVERASBORO BATTLEFIELD SCENIC BYWAY

The Averasboro Battlefield Scenic Byway takes motorists through the heart of one of the Civil War's last battlefields.

Located about two miles from I-95, the byway follows the route of Union Gen. William T. Sherman's march through the Cape Fear River Valley just north of



Children explore the Averasboro Battlefield Museum grounds.

Fayetteville in Cumberland and Harnett counties.

**Access the byway by taking Exit 65 off I-95 and follow N.C. 82 West through the community of Godwin. The byway begins just after passing through town. A N.C. Scenic Byways sign marks the beginning of the route, which then continues nearly five miles through the battlefield along N.C. 82.**

While the byway's history primarily involves the Civil War, this route was an important part of the plank road system in the early 1800s. French Gen. Marquis de Lafayette traveled along this road on his way to Fayetteville during his 1825 tour of the United States. As the byway begins, motorists will notice the small farms and patches of woodland that dot the route. This area forms a small plateau between the floodplains of the Cape Fear and Black

ivers. This geographic feature is the reason Sherman marched his troops through the area after leaving Savannah en route to a

Confederate munitions depot in Goldsboro.

Along the byway, motorists will notice a number of historical markers. These markers tell the story

of how Southern troops tried in vain to stop the advance of Sherman in the Averasboro community. Along the route, three plantation homes were used as hospitals, two for Union forces and one for Confederates. While none are open to the public, the William Turner Smith House, near the intersection of N.C. 82 and Ross West Road (S.R. 1801), is under renovation for use as a transportation museum. Cannonball holes are still visible in the walls throughout this house.

While the area surrounding the byway today is expansive farmland, during the Battle of Averasboro this region was primarily woodland. Just before the Cumberland/Harnett County line, a re-creation of the original trench lines is visible. Further along the byway is the Chicora Civil War Cemetery, featuring a restored slave cabin from the Smith

Plantation, to which the land along the byway once belonged.

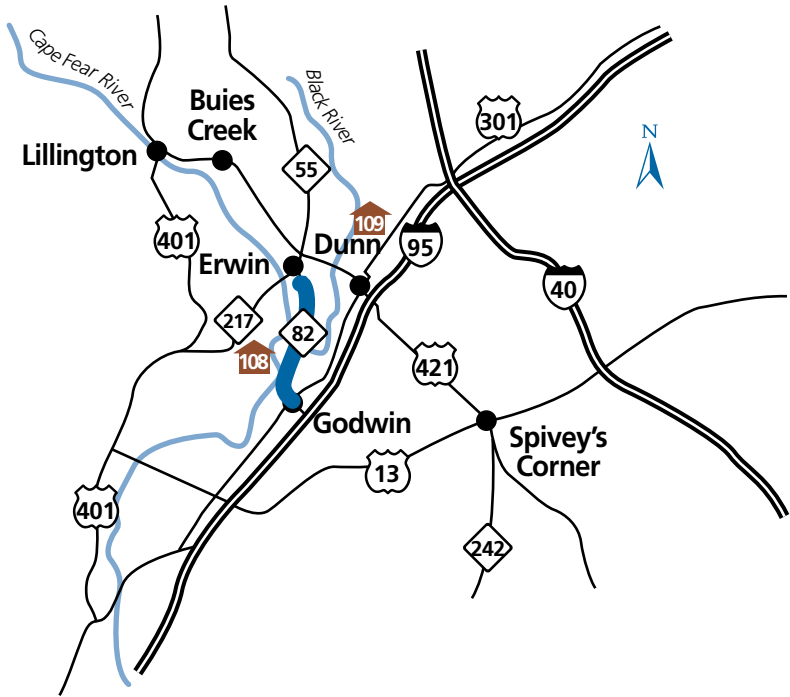
The Averagesboro Battlefield Museum is just past the cemetery, which houses exhibits of the Battle of Averagesboro. Each year a reenactment of the battle is held on the museum grounds. About a mile past the museum on the right in a grove of trees, is the red-roofed Lebanon Plantation house. This now private residence was once used as the Confederate Civil War hospital.

**The byway ends about a mile from the Lebanon Plantation house.** Continue to follow N.C. 82 West to the town of Erwin, or backtrack to return to I-95. Military enthusiasts may choose to visit the Gen. William C. Lee Airborne

Museum about two miles from Erwin off U.S. 421 in Dunn. The Meteor Lakes Byway (pg. 108) is also located nearby.



**Length: 4.7 miles**  
**Drive Time: 15 minutes**  
**County: Cumberland and Harnett**



# SCOTS-WELSH HERITAGE BYWAY

The Scots-Welsh Heritage Byway travels through Orange County along trade roads used by American Indians and early backcountry pioneers.

The king of England gave much of the land along this byway to 18th century Scotch-Welsh settlers.

Generation after generation

has lived and farmed this land, each leaving its own mark, making this byway a unique journey through American history.

**To begin the byway from I-40, take Exit 261 (Hillsborough) onto Old N.C.**

**86.** Head south on Old N.C. 86 away from Hillsborough. Old N.C. 86 appears on colonial maps dating back to 1770. Not far down the road is a scenic vista of farmland known as Currie Hill, where the elevation goes from about 500 to more than 800 feet above sea level. The hills form a horseshoe-shaped valley near a tributary of New Hope Creek.

Crossing over New Hope Creek, **turn right on Arthur Minnis Road (S.R. 1129). Pass Union Grove Church Road (S.R. 1111) and cross over New Hope Creek two more times. After passing Rocky Ridge Road (S.R. 1113), Arthur Minnis Road becomes a gravel road**

snaking through beautiful forests as well as rustic homesteads that have log cabins and historic farms. Some of the farms, such as the Finebar

Farm, are still in use today. After crossing Dodson Crossroads, Arthur Minnis Road becomes paved again. On the left side of the road, notice the pole barn



Maple View Farm

and the “Sunflower School.”

**Shortly afterwards, turn left on Orange Grove Road (S.R. 1006).** After about one mile, Kirk’s Dairy and Sawmill farms will be on the right, followed by an active livestock show a little further down. Another mile down the road, the Cane Creek Baptist Church Cemetery is on the right. This mid-1800s cemetery is home to several Civil War soldiers’ graves.

**Turn left onto Dairyland Road (S.R. 1104).** Originally a part of an American Indian trading path, Dairyland Road has remained an important route through the years. The road passes weathered farmhouses like the one nicknamed “Old Stagecoach.”

At the corner of Dairyland Road and Rocky Ridge Road is the Maple View Country Store. The store, which is known for its homemade ice cream, is a local

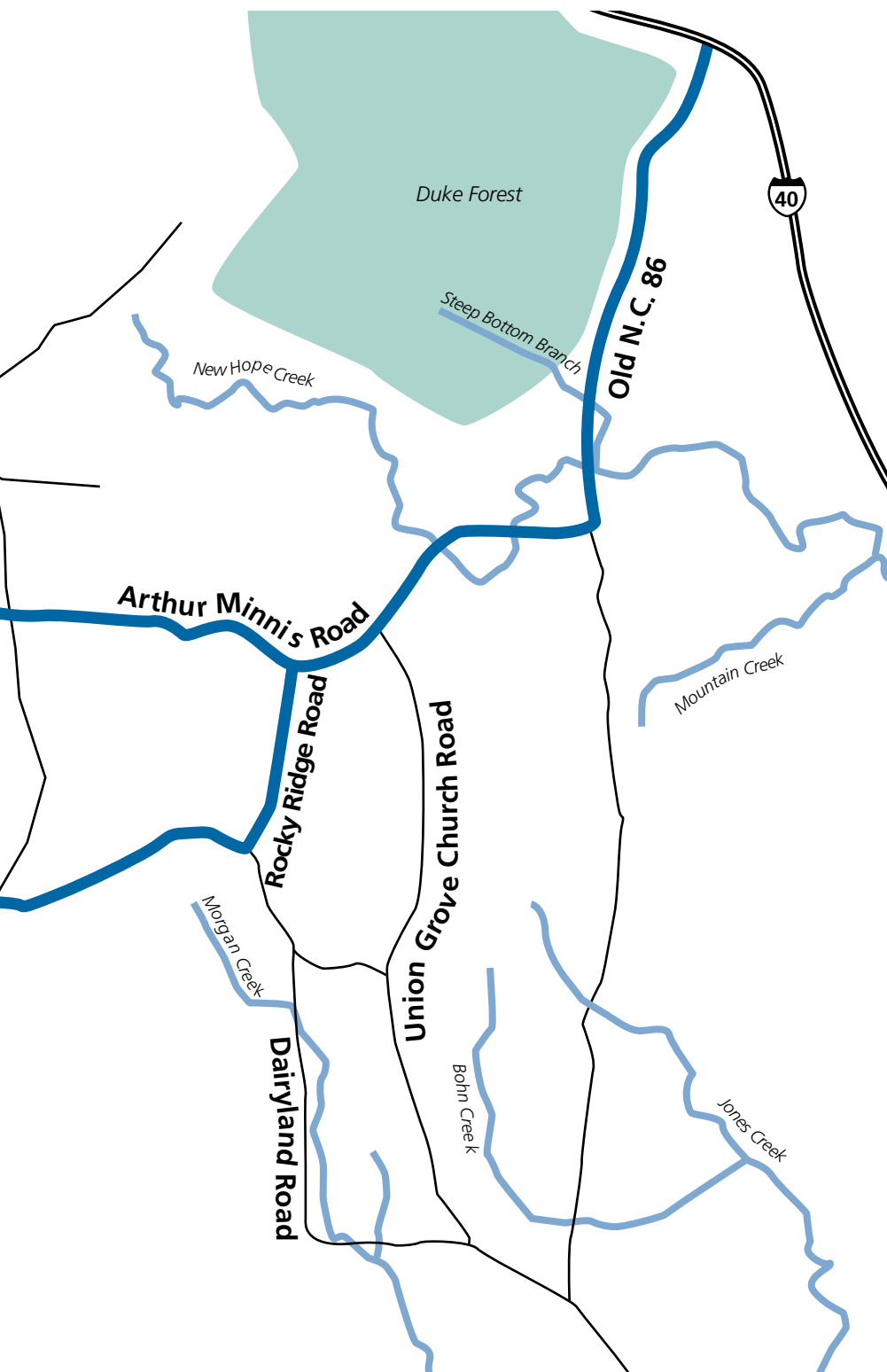
favorite. Views of the historic Nutter Farm can be enjoyed from the store's front porch.

**Continue following the byway by turning onto Rocky Ridge Road** through the Orange County countryside. **Turn right onto Arthur Minnis Road and left onto Old N.C. 86, which leads to I-40 and the end of the byway.** Three miles past I-40 on Old N.C. 86 is the town of Hillsborough. Founded in 1754, Hillsborough is a small town with charming brick buildings and a clock that the king of England gave to the town in the 1760s. Both the Colonial Heritage Byway (pg. 66) and Football Road (pg. 68) are located nearby.



**Length: 10 miles**  
**Drive Time: 20 minutes**  
**County: Orange**







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# BLUE-GRAY SCENIC BYWAY

The Blue-Gray Scenic Byway reflects the significant impact the Civil War, which was fought between 1861–65, had on Eastern North Carolina.

The byway's western terminus is located near Smithfield, the Johnston County seat. **From I-95, take Exit 90 onto U.S. 701 East. Immediately after turning**

**onto U.S. 701, turn left onto Devil's Racetrack Road (S.R. 1009)**, which parallels the Neuse River and Hannah's Creek. Local legend says people traveling this road could once hear the footsteps of a horse carrying the devil as he rode through the area; however, no one has ever seen the horse or its rider.

**Follow the course of the Neuse River to the left and Hannah's Creek to the right for the next 8.5 miles before finally crossing Hannah's Creek.** The road continues over Civil War battle sites, noted on the many historic markers along both sides of the road. About one mile after crossing Hannah's Creek, the byway crosses Mill Creek where Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's troops were prevented from attacking Union troops under the command of Gen. William T. Sherman

from the rear because of a flood. The Confederates were able to escape after their defeat.

In the community of Bentonville,

one-half mile farther, Confederate forces kept naval stores of tar, pitch and turpentine, which they burned after their retreat from Bentonville.



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Reenactment at the Battle of Bentonville

**From Bentonville, continue 1.5 miles and veer left at the fork in the road. Proceed an additional mile to Harper House Road (S.R. 1008). Turn right and follow the road for three miles to reach the Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site.** This 1865 Civil War battle slowed Sherman's march through the state and was the bloodiest battle ever fought on North Carolina soil with nearly 5,000 total casualties. Reenactments of this historic battle are held each March. Reminders of this battle may be found on both sides of the road. The Harper House was used as a Union field hospital and is included in the site's tour.

After visiting the battlefield, **backtrack three miles to Harper House Road and turn onto the third road to the right, St. John's Church Road (S.R.**

**1196). Follow this road three miles into Wayne County**, where the road name changes to Bentonville Road (S.R. 1205). **At the stop sign, turn left and travel north on U.S. 13** alongside Falling Creek. **After four miles, turn right onto Grantham School Road (S.R. 1006)** in Grantham, which is located between Falling Creek and the Neuse River. This community was settled in the 18th century.

**Follow Grantham School Road three miles then turn left onto O'Berry Road (S.R. 1120). Follow this road about 7.5 miles and cross U.S. 117. Continue into the community of Dudley**, settled in 1837 and named for Gov. E.B. Dudley. **At this point, the road name changes to Sleepy Creek Road (S.R. 1120).** Dudley is located about 10 miles south of Goldsboro, the Wayne County seat and home of Seymour Johnson Air Force Base.

**About 2.5 miles east of Dudley, turn right onto Eagles Nest Road (S.R. 1933) and follow it for about three miles. Cross over Sleepy Creek**, which received its name from the Saponi Indians, who thought the waters had medicinal qualities because they would drink the water and fall asleep on the banks of the creek. **Turn left onto Indian Springs Road (S.R. 1744) and continue nearly four miles to N.C. 111.** The rich farmlands in this area are part of the Neuse River Basin. The fertile soil is the result of thousands of years of flooding and changing patterns of the river and creeks that feed nearby. **Take N.C. 111 North one-half mile to Cliffs of the Neuse State Park.**

The park features cliffs that rise 90 feet from the Neuse River and were formed

when a fault shifted thousands of years ago. Over time, erosion exposed the multi-colored sedimentary layers in a formation that enables laurel and other mountain plants to grow here. Nature trails and a museum are available to park visitors.

**Travel south along N.C. 111 and turn left onto Indian Springs Road (S.R. 1744) to continue on the byway. Follow Indian Springs Road and turn left onto N.C. 55. One-half mile down N.C. 55, turn left again onto Spring Street (S.R. 1739).**

This well-groomed gravel road takes motorists by the Seven Springs Hotel, above the Neuse River. Now a privately owned residence, this hotel was named for the surrounding mineral springs and was once the site of a Victorian resort that operated between 1881 and 1944. **From Spring Street, turn left onto Main Street (S.R. 1731) toward the Neuse River.** A state Civil War marker denotes the site where the Confederate ironclad, the C.S.S. Neuse, was built. This was also the site of an early Civil War skirmish, the Battle of Whitehall, where Union troops damaged the Neuse, which is now housed in Kinston. Seven Springs was originally named Whitehall after the plantation built by William Whitefield, a prominent pre-Revolutionary War settler, in 1741.

**Continue to the right on Main Street (S.R. 1731) in Seven Springs, climb the short hill and turn left onto N.C. 55. Follow N.C. 55 for 4.7 miles into Lenoir County. In Strabane**, named for an early Irish settler, **turn right after the mill onto Smith Grady Road (S.R. 1152) and follow for 3.5 miles. As the road makes an elbow turn to the left,**

**stay right on Old Pink Hill Road (S.R. 1111).** Look to the right for the 180-acre Tulls Mill Pond, formed in 1875 at the head of Southwest Creek.

**Turn left onto Lidell Road (S.R. 1143),** toward the farming community of Deep Run, which was established in the 1880s with the opening of a turpentine distillery. It was originally called Red Town because the community's houses were painted red. Deep Run is nine miles south of Kinston, the Lenoir County seat.



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Harper House

**Continue straight for two miles from Deep Run as the road name changes to John Green Smith Road (S.R. 1141).** Turn right onto Big Oak Road (S.R. 1138). Travel one-half mile, then turn left on Sandy Fountain Road (S.R. 1137). Continue one mile and stop at U.S. 258, cross the road diagonally, and continue on Lightwood Knot Road (S.R. 1925) nearly five miles. The land to the south between Deep Run and this point is part of the upland swamps of the Bearwell Pocosin. Possibly named for Thomas Burwell, who lived in the area about 1750, the Bearwell Pocosin empties into the Trent River south of here.

**Turn left on Vine Swamp Road (S.R. 1922) and make a right on N.C. 58, one third of a mile later before crossing into Jones County.** From here, it is nine

**miles to the Trent River and another three miles into Trenton along N.C. 58.**

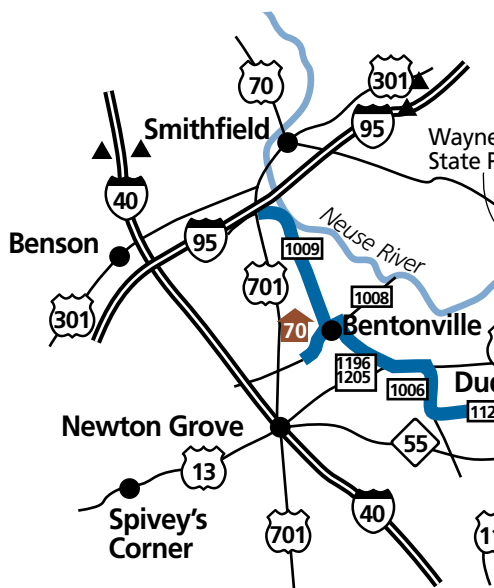
Trenton, the Jones County seat, was

established as Trent Courthouse in 1779 and named for the river, which itself was named for the Trent River in England.

By 1784, the name Trenton was adopted.

**The route ends near the mill and pond on the south end of town at Mayfield Road (S.R. 1165).**

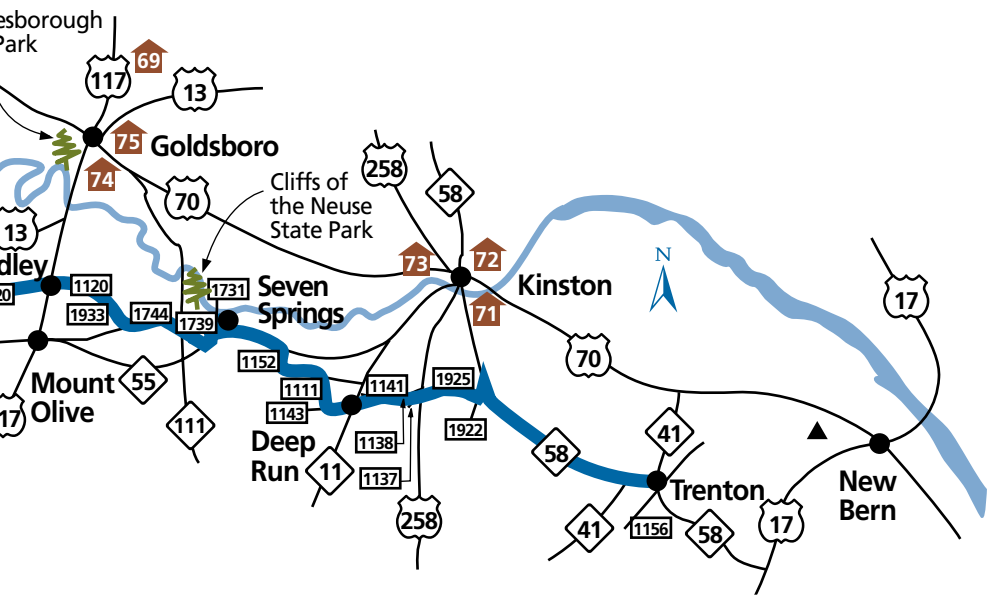
Nearby places of interest include New Bern and the beaches of the Crystal Coast. New Bern, the colonial



and state capital from 1746–1792, is 25 miles northeast of Trenton. About 35 miles southwest of Trenton are Bogue Sound and beach recreation areas. Follow N.C. 58 East for an interesting alternative to U.S. 70 en route to Emerald Isle, Atlantic Beach and Beaufort.



**Length: 82 miles**  
**Drive Time: Two hours**  
**Counties: Jones, Lenoir, Johnston and Wayne**





# METEOR LAKES BYWAY

The Meteor Lakes Byway showcases North Carolina's fertile farmlands.

**Beginning in Elizabethtown, the Bladen County seat, travel north on N.C. 242 from N.C. 53.**

The county was named for Martin Bladen, the state commissioner of trade and plantations from

1717 to 1746. Elizabethtown, settled in 1773 and possibly named for Queen Elizabeth I, was the site of the 1781 Revolutionary War Battle of Elizabethtown, where Whigs broke the Tories' (colonials devoted to England) power by driving them into a ravine, now known as Tory Hole, along the Cape Fear River.

**Just outside Elizabethtown, cross the Cape Fear River and enter the Bladen Lakes State Forest.** About four miles north of the river is Jones Lake, the closest of the meteor lakes to N.C. 242. Originally named Woodward in 1734 for a local justice of the peace, the lake's name was changed later to Jones in honor of a prominent local landowner.

Jones Lake, as well as White Lake, Singletary Lake and Lake Waccamaw, are known as meteor lakes or Carolina bays. These oval depressions are believed to have been formed by ancient meteor showers. They have gathered water and

decomposed organic material over the years to create the fertile farmlands along this route. With the exception of Lake

Waccamaw, each is located in the Bladen Lakes State Forest.

**From Jones Lake State Park, the byway passes through**

**the Turnbull Creek Valley.** The fields to the right are part of the Big Colly and Cypress Creek bays. On the short drive through Cumberland County, founded in 1754, notice the Big White Pocosin to the left. It was named for the Duke of Cumberland, a son of British King George II, who was successful at the Battle of Culloden. Ironically, the area was settled by Scottish Highlanders, the people defeated by the Duke of Cumberland. **At the Cumberland/Sampson County line, cross the South River and continue to Roseboro.**

Sampson County was named for John Sampson, a member of the House of Commons under North Carolina's royal governors. Roseboro was originally established in 1839 as Owensville. In 1891, the name was changed to honor George Rose, chief counsel for the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad. **North of Roseboro, cross Little Coharie Creek**

Photo courtesy of Highway 242 Beautification Committee



Mural in downtown Salemburg



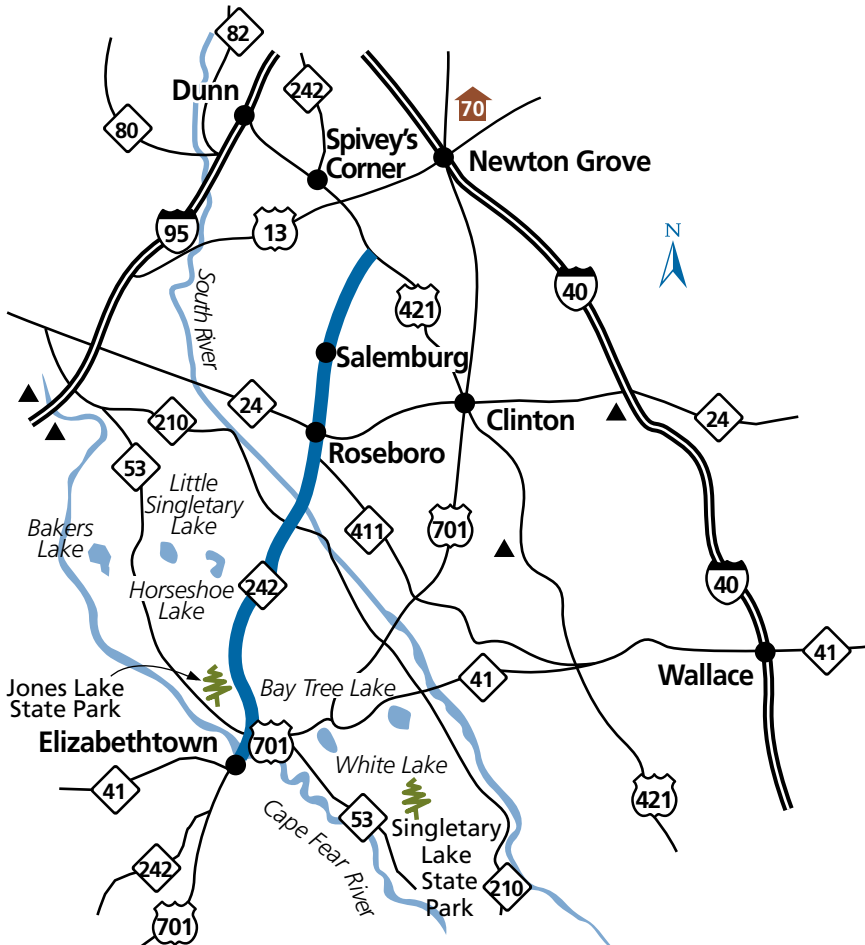
**and travel to Salemburg.** The town was founded in 1874 and named for Salem Academy, located in the town. The school was the forerunner of the North Carolina Justice Academy where state law enforcement officers obtain advanced education. A mural depicting the heritage of the area is displayed in town.

**The byway ends at the junction of N.C. 242 and U.S. 421,** four miles south of Spivey's Corner in Sampson County. Located at the headwaters of Little Coharie Creek, Spivey's Corner is well known as

the home of the annual Hollerin' Contest. From Spivey's Corner, travel U.S. 421 North to I-95 in Dunn. The Averasboro Battlefield Scenic Byway (pg. 97) is located nearby.



**Length: 39 miles**  
**Drive Time: 45 minutes**  
**Counties: Bladen, Cumberland and Sampson**



# GREEN SWAMP BYWAY

**Begin following the Green Swamp Byway at its southern end, one-half mile north of Supply in Brunswick County on N.C.**

**211 North.** At more than 140 square miles, Green Swamp is composed of peat and muck timberland because it has little surface water and extensive tree farms. In 1795,



Green Swamp

the state of North Carolina granted more than 170,000 acres of this land to three businessmen who used the swamp for cutting lumber and peat.

An isolated community named Crusoe Island is located on the edge of the vast swamp. Political refugees from French Haiti founded Crusoe Island in 1806. Today, the swamplands are owned by several large pulp and paper companies.

Traveling north from Supply on N.C. 211, cross the Royal Oak Swamp after two miles. Royal Oak Swamp is fed by the Green Swamp and flows into the Lockwoods Folly River. **From the intersection of N.C. 211 and Little Macedonia Road (S.R. 1343/1448), drive through Green Swamp for the next 23 miles to Bolton.** At the Brunswick/Columbus County line, cross Clear Branch Creek. Crusoe Island lies 15

miles southwest of the county line.

The byway passes near Lake Waccamaw State Park near Bolton in

Columbus County. Lake Waccamaw, like other nearby lakes, was formed by ancient meteor showers. The park offers an abundance of recreational opportunities and is an easy

side trip. (For more information on North Carolina's meteor lakes turn to the Meteor Lakes Byway on pg. 108.) The Green Swamp drains into Lake Waccamaw, which was named around 1733 for a local American Indian tribe. Columbus County is named in honor of Christopher Columbus.

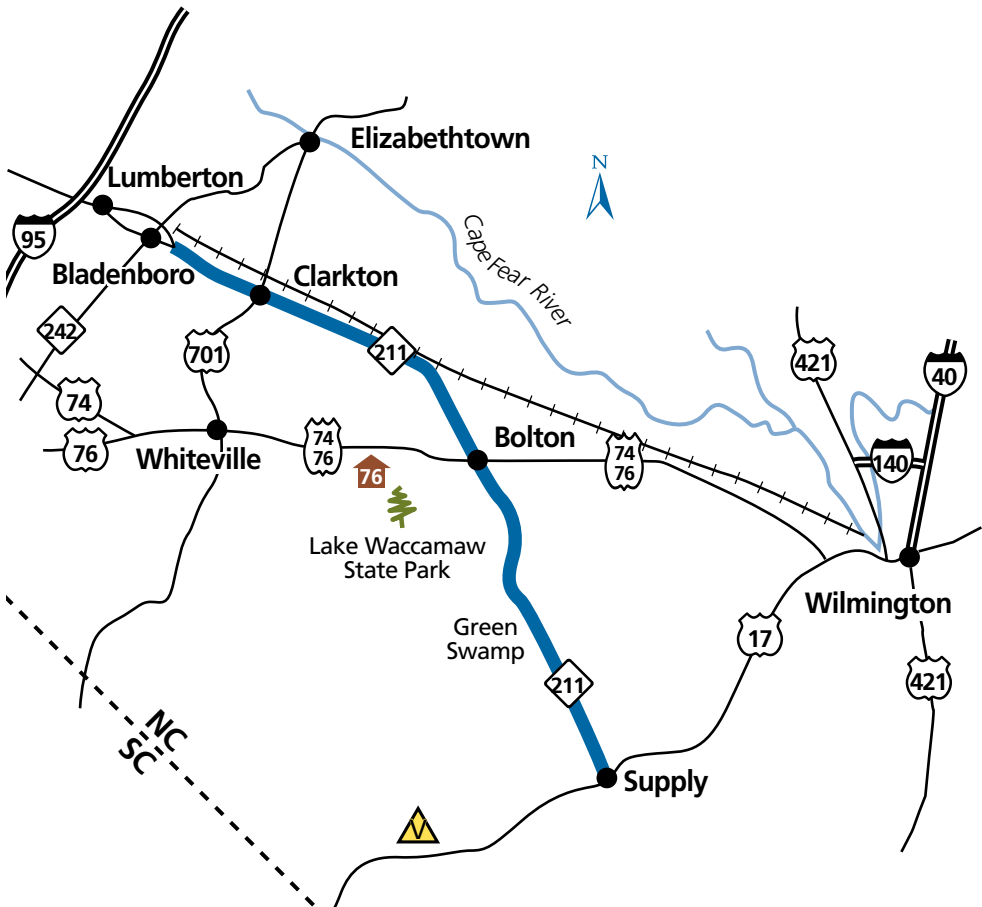
**After passing Lake Waccamaw, continue to Bolton.** Settled in 1889, Bolton was named for a lumber company that once operated in the area. **Farther north on N.C. 211 the byway passes through the Friar Swamp,** which feeds into Lake Waccamaw. **Continue into Bladen County through large pine forests,** planted for pulp and paper use, **toward Bladenboro. About three miles north of the county line, the road turns and parallels the CSX railroad line.**

**From here, it is 12 miles to Clarkton,**

a community incorporated in 1901, which has also been called Brown Marsh Station and Dalton. **The byway ends at the intersection of N.C. 211 and N.C. 242 east of Bladenboro, eight miles northwest of Clarkton.**



*Length: 53 miles*  
*Drive Time: One hour*  
*Counties: Brunswick, Columbus and Bladen*



# BRUNSWICK TOWN ROAD

Brunswick Town Road may be one of the state's shortest scenic byways, but it is rich in history. **The byway begins at the intersection of N.C. 133 and Plantation Road (S.R. 1529) near Southport and follows Plantation Road toward the Brunswick Town State Historic Site.**



Orton Plantation

Shortly before the byway begins, N.C. 133 crosses Allen Creek, once known as Lilliput Creek for the plantation at its headwaters. Granted to Eleazar Allen in 1725, Lilliput Plantation was named for the imaginary country in *Gulliver's Travels*. Allen Creek joins the Cape Fear River near Orton Plantation.

Orton Plantation, built around 1725 by Roger Moore, overlooks the river on Orton Point. It was later owned by Royal Gov. Benjamin Smith, who is buried nearby at St. Philips Anglican Church. Admission is required for tours of the privately owned plantation.

**The byway passes Orton Pond**, an artificial pond built in 1810. Alligators can sometimes be seen sunbathing near the road at this point.

**Turn left onto Tryon Palace Road (S.R. 1533) and follow it to Brunswick**

**Town State Historic Site, where the byway ends.** Settled in 1725, the town was named for King George I, the Duke

of Brunswick and Lunenburg. In addition to being one of North Carolina's primary colonial ports, it was home to Govs. Arthur Dobbs and Benjamin Smith and was the county seat from 1764 to

1779. St. Philips Anglican Church was built here in 1751. Its ruins are surrounded by the Civil War bunkers of Fort Anderson.

Brunswick Town, in ruins since 1830, has a long history — from attacks by the Spanish in 1748, to Revolutionary and Civil War battles. Resistance to the Stamp Act occurred in 1765 at the Russelborough House, the ruins of which are located north of the Brunswick Town Site.

Fort Anderson was built here during the Civil War to help protect the port of Wilmington. The fort was evacuated in 1865 after a devastating Union attack that led to the fall of Wilmington. Another battery, Fort Lamb, was located just south on Price's Creek.

For additional travels, continue south on N.C. 133 to the town of Southport, named for its location as the state's southernmost port at the mouth of the

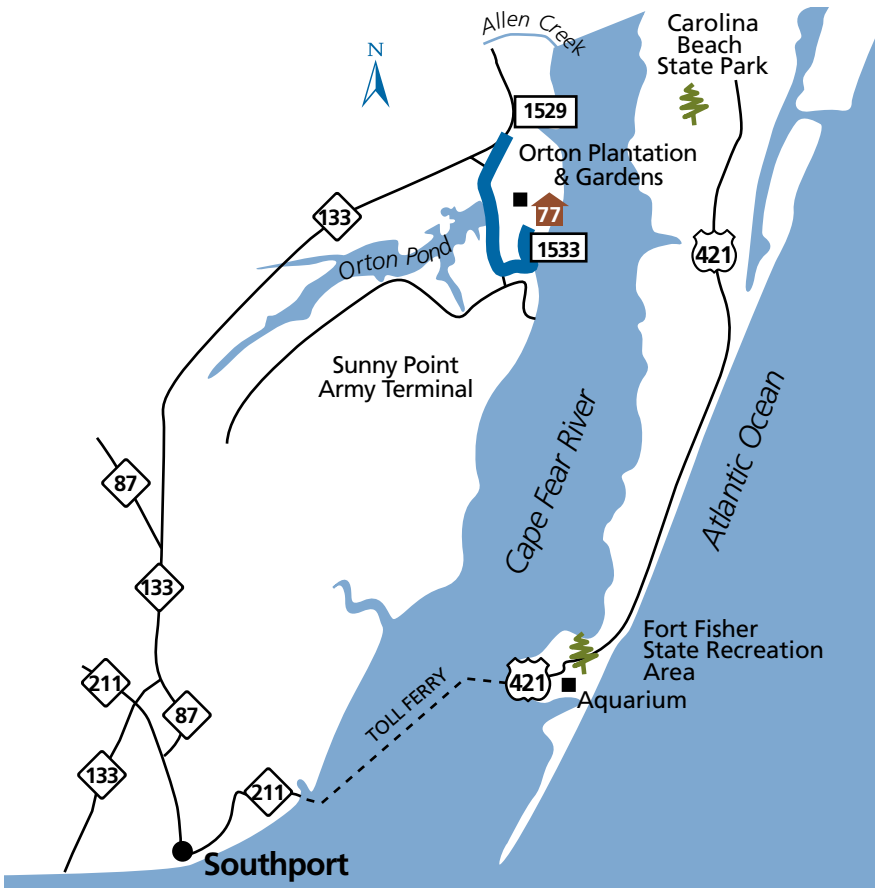
Cape Fear River. Southport was built in 1748 as part of Fort Johnston, named for Colonial Gov. Gabriel Johnston. The fort, which burned in 1775, was rebuilt around 1800 and later used by the Confederate Army, though only the officers' quarters remain.

The Cape Fear River's headwaters are located in the Piedmont region of the state. The river was discovered in 1524 by Giovanni da Verrazzano. It has had several names, but "Cape Fear" became the final designation because the southern tip of Smith Island (now Bald Head Island), at the river's mouth, was the site of many narrow escapes from navigational mishaps.

A state ferry runs from Southport across the river to Fort Fisher. Now a state historic site, Fort Fisher protected the river during the Civil War and was the site of the largest land and sea assault by U.S. forces prior to D-Day in World War II. A museum, as well as one of North Carolina's three aquariums, is located at the Fort Fisher State Recreation Area.



**Length: Three miles**  
**Drive Time: 10 minutes**  
**County: Brunswick**



# CAPE FEAR HISTORIC BYWAY

The Cape Fear Historic Byway in downtown Wilmington guides motorists through one of the most scenic urban areas in the

nation as it travels beside the tranquil Cape Fear River, along thriving colonial-era streets and through the majestic Greenfield



Tourists enjoy downtown Wilmington

Park and Gardens.

Known as the Port City, Wilmington was incorporated in 1739 and sits on a peninsula between the Cape Fear River and Atlantic Ocean. The city contains North Carolina's richest collection of 19th century urban architecture and still maintains the original grid pattern finalized in 1743. Wilmington was built, for the most part, by commission merchants and prosperous businessmen who indulged themselves in the extravagances of the culture of the late 1800s. Today, the city is home to about 100,000 people and is the largest city on North Carolina's coast.

**The byway begins at the intersection of U.S. 74/N.C. 133 (Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway) and North Third Street, adjacent to the Isabel Holmes Bridge over the Cape**

**Fear River. Driving south on North Third Street,** the byway first passes the site of the planned 1898 Memorial Park, which will bear witness to racial violence that occurred near this location on Nov. 10, 1898, an important event in Wilmington's history. **The byway will turn right on**

**North Front Street,** where motorists are greeted with a sweeping view of the Cape Fear River.

**Turn right onto Red Cross Street, which becomes North Water Street, which then changes to South Water Street after passing Market Street.**

The waterfront area features the federal courthouse; Wilmington's Riverwalk, a well-maintained pedestrian promenade that extends the length of Water Street; and many unique shops and restaurants. *The U.S.S. North Carolina*, which played a major role in a number of Pacific Ocean battles during World War II, rests just across the river. The ship, now a state historic site, offers tours for a fee.

**At the entrance to Chandler's Wharf,** a colonial seaport-turned-shopping area featuring oyster shell streets, **turn left onto Ann Street and**



**follow it for one block, then turn right onto South Front Street.** This residential avenue features some of the city's most exclusive homes. **Turn left onto Castle Street and then again onto South Fifth Avenue.** These two streets comprise the heart of the Wilmington National Register Historic District, an antique district that once was the home for workers at the city seaport.

**At the end of South Fifth Street, the byway enters Greenfield Park and Gardens.** This scenic park surrounding Lake Greenfield is home to a wide variety of trees and plant life. While in the park, the byway passes the world's largest Rotary Club International sign and the Greenfield Lake Park Ampitheatre, which hosts summertime Shakespeare performances. **Continue following East Lake Shore Drive around the lake for 2.5 miles. The road name then changes to West Lake Shore Drive. Follow for 1.3 miles before briefly turning right onto U.S. 421 North and then right onto Willard Street.**

**Follow Willard Street two blocks before turning left onto South Fifth Avenue,** passing again through the historic district. **Continue nearly a mile before turning left onto Castle Street. Two blocks later, turn right onto South Third Street.** This stretch of roadway is home to the city's government buildings as well as many historic churches. Also along this section is the Thalian Hall Performing Arts Center. The Soliders of the Confederacy Monument is located at the intersection of South Third Street and Dock Street.

By briefly turning right off the byway onto Market Street, motorists can visit Bellamy Mansion, First Baptist Church, the Kenan Memorial Fountain and both the Sen. George Davis and Cornelius Harnett monuments. **Continue along Third Street, which changes from South to North at Market Street, back to U.S. 74/N.C. 133, where the byway ends.**

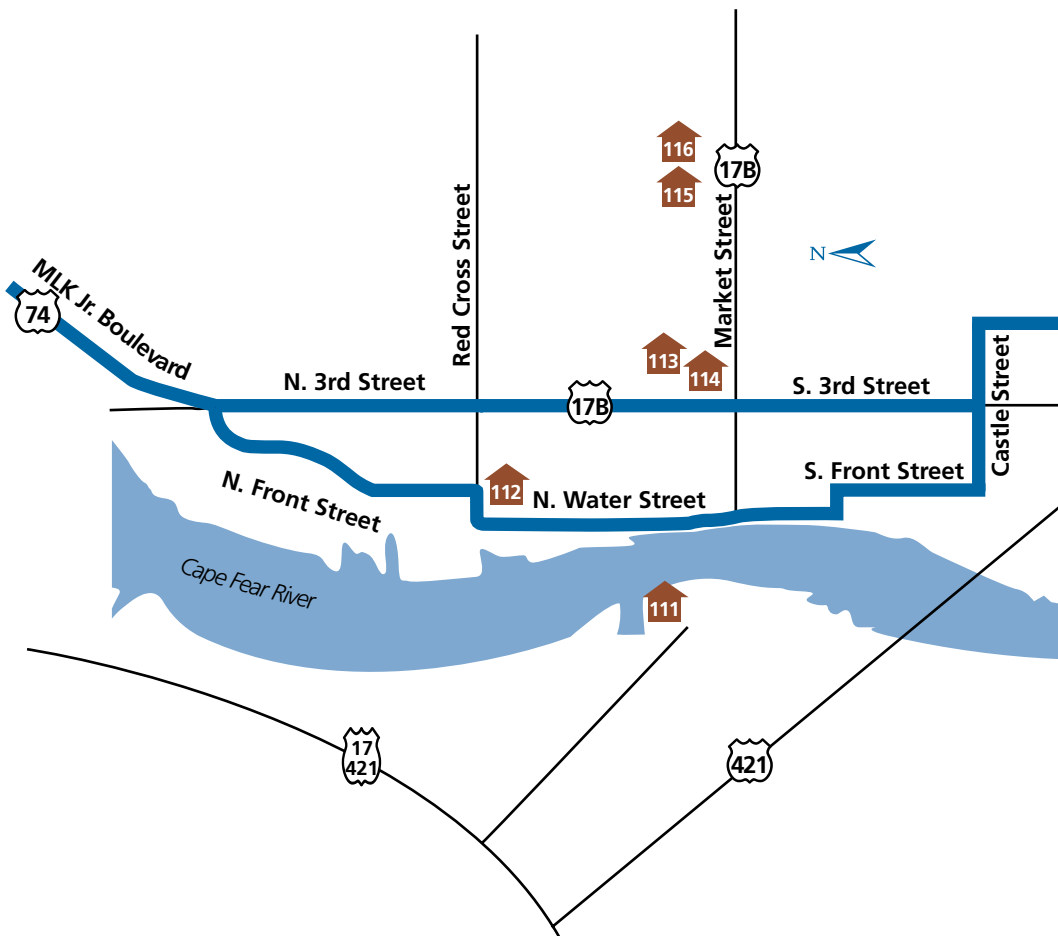


*Length: Eight miles*  
*Drive Time: 40 minutes*  
*County: New Hanover*



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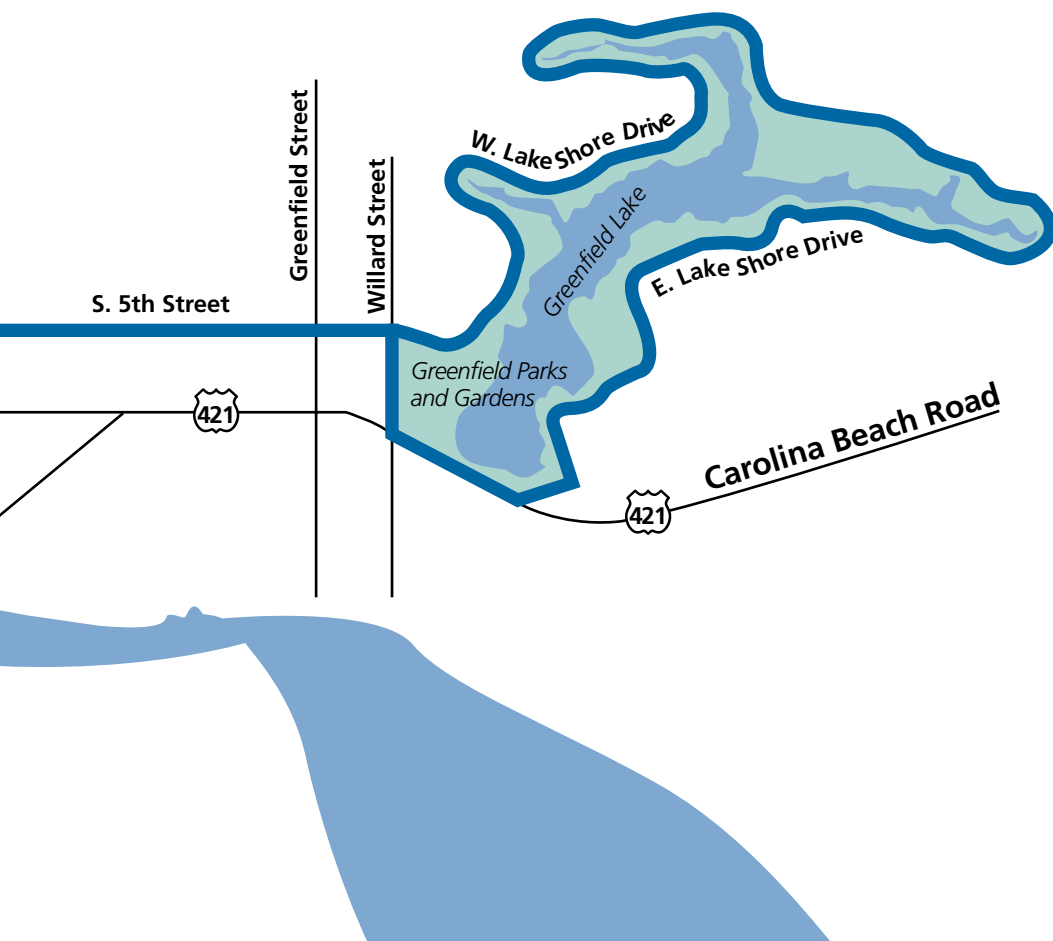
Greenfield Lake





NCDOT

*U.S.S. Battleship North Carolina*



# LAFAYETTE'S TOUR

The Lafayette's Tour byway takes motorists through several of the communities that French Gen. Marquis de Lafayette visited on his 1825 tour of the United States. The city of Fayetteville, in southeastern North Carolina, was named for this famous Revolutionary War hero.

The byway's western end is located in one of North Carolina's richest historical areas. Note that North Carolina's early development was not limited by political boundaries, as explorers and settlers from Virginia and North Carolina crossed the present state line to share culture and trade. In many cases, this part of North Carolina and the southern part of Virginia are nearly identical in economy, architecture and regional dialect.

**To access the byway, travel U.S. 1 to Henderson, the Vance County seat, take the exit onto Warrenton Road (S.R. 1001), and turn right. The byway begins here and travels 11 miles to Warrenton.** Although the state road number remains 1001, the road name changes to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard at the Warren County line. **At the intersection of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and U.S. 401 (Main**

**Street), turn left onto U.S. 401.**

Warrenton, named for Joseph Warren, a soldier killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill, is the Warren County seat. Enjoy views of historic antebellum houses while driving through the town or take a pleasant stroll on the courthouse grounds. Gen. Lafayette stayed

at a plantation south of town between his speeches in Halifax and Raleigh.

Warrenton has been home to many famous people such as journalist Horace Greeley and John A. Hyman, North Carolina's first African-American congressman, as well as the Bragg brothers, who were both politicians and soldiers. **One block later, turn right at the courthouse onto N.C. 43/58 (Macon Street). Follow N.C. 43 when the routes split about four miles later in the Liberia community. Continue on N.C. 43 nearly 11 miles across rolling hills to Essex.** Incorporated in 1891, Essex was the center of a free African-American settlement prior to the Civil War. Descendants of some of the original families live here today.

**Past Essex, make a sharp left turn onto N.C. 561 East and follow it for**



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Owens House in Historic Halifax

**seven miles to the community of Brinkleyville.** Outdoor enthusiasts may want to visit nearby Medoc Mountain State Park by turning right onto N.C. 4/48 and following the signs. Sidney Weller named Medoc Mountain, a high hill on Little Fishing Creek, for the vineyard he established there in the late 1800s. He introduced America to a system of grape culture and named his vineyard after the wine-producing area of Medoc, France. Medoc Mountain is an elongated ridge, the remnant of an ancient granite core of a mountain range formed in the Paleozoic Era.

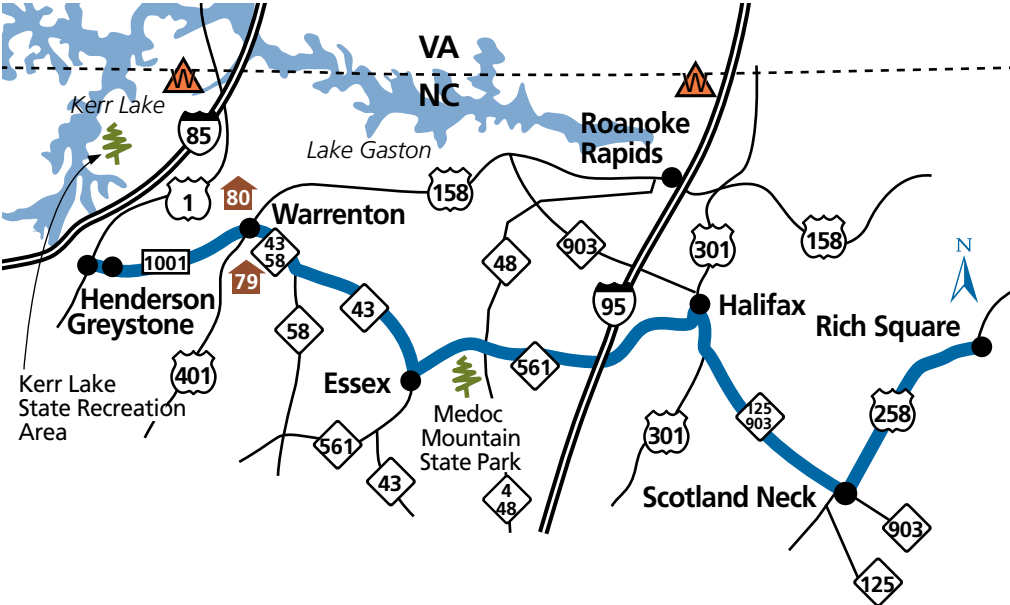
**Continue along N.C. 561 East for nine miles, crossing I-95 near the community of Beaverdam located on the Beaverdam Swamp. From Beaverdam, settled in 1770, travel 7.5 miles to U.S. 301 Business. Turn left onto U.S. 301 Business to venture into Halifax, a half mile north.**

Now a state historic site, Halifax was once the colonial seat of the State

Assembly. Laid out in 1757, Halifax was named for the Second Earl of Halifax George Montague, who helped expand colonial commerce while serving as the president of the Board of Trade and Plantations. The Halifax Resolves were signed here in 1776 as one of the first actions taken by a colony for independence, and Lafayette spoke in this town on Feb. 27, 1825. Several historic buildings are part of the tour in Halifax.

**Leaving Halifax, backtrack south along U.S. 301/N.C. 125/903 for about three miles and turn left onto N.C. 125/903. Travel 4.5 miles to the community of Crowells Crossroads, settled by Edward and Joseph Crowell in 1730. Stories say these men, relatives of Oliver Cromwell, escaped during the English Reformation by dropping the letter *m* from their names.**

**Follow N.C. 125/903 for another 10 miles to Scotland Neck.** Scotland Neck was first settled by Scotsmen in 1722. **From the intersection of N.C. 125/903**



**and U.S. 258 in downtown Scotland Neck, turn left and follow U.S. 258 North six miles to the Roanoke River.**

Commissioned in 1864, the C.S.S. *Ram Albemarle* was built near here and outfitted in Halifax with machinery and guns. An early trade route, the Roanoke River Valley is home to many colonial plantations.

**Continue on U.S. 258/N.C. 561 over the Roanoke River and then for 6.5 miles to Rich Square,** which was settled by Virginia Quakers in 1750 and named for its fertile soil. **From Rich Square, follow N.C. 561 nearly 11 miles** through Eagletown, an early Quaker settlement, to St. John, which was settled around 1722 and was originally named Douglas Ordinary after a local tavern.

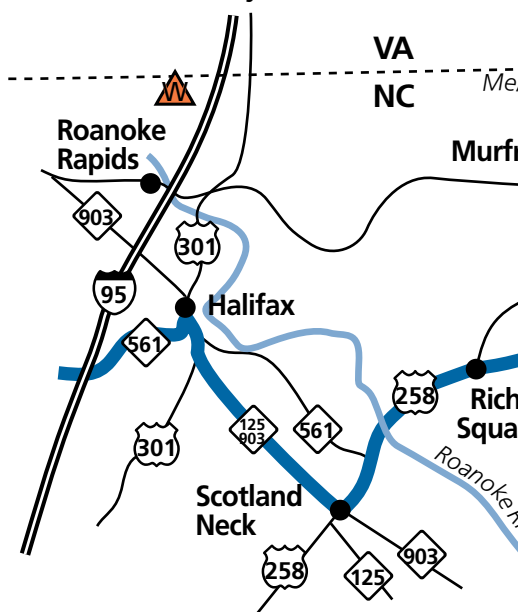
**At the large white church in St. John, turn left onto Menola-John Road (S.R. 1141) and then turn right 1.5 miles later onto Flea Hill Road (S.R. 1142) after crossing through Cutawhiskie Swamp.** The Cutawhiskie Swamp and the Potecasi Creek, located three miles farther north, flow into the Chowan River basin to the east. **Turn right after nearly three miles onto Woodland Road (S.R. 1160), which becomes Benthall Bridge Road after crossing Potecasi Creek. Follow this road into Murfreesboro.**

Settled in the early 1700s, Murfreesboro was first known as Murfrees after the family that owned the land upon which the town was built. The nearby landing on the Meherrin River was known as Murfrees Ferry in 1770 and by 1787 the town received its current name. Murfreesboro has a notable historic district

to the north of Main Street. Gen. Lafayette stayed in Murfreesboro on Feb. 26, 1825. Famous former citizens include Dr. Walter Reed, former head of the U.S. Yellow Fever Commission in Cuba and the doctor who discovered a cure for the disease; Richard J. Gatling, who invented the gatling gun and several agricultural tools; and John W. Wheeler, minister to Nicaragua and state treasurer during the mid-1800s.

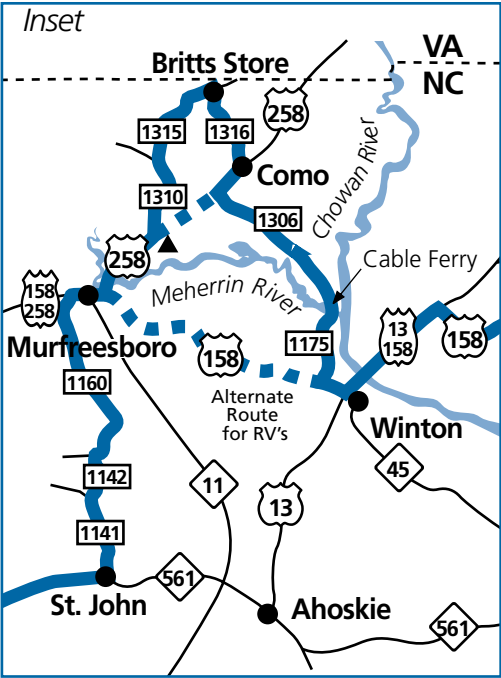
In town, **turn right on U.S. 158 Business (Main Street) and follow to the U.S. 258/N.C. 11 stoplight. Turn onto U.S. 258 North, cross the Meherrin River and continue nearly three miles to Barrets Crossroads. At the crossroads, turn left onto Statesville Road (S.R. 1310). Four miles later, turn right onto Foushee Railey Road (S.R. 1315) and right again two miles later onto Buckhorn Church Road (S.R. 1316) in the Britts Store community.**

**Follow Buckhorn Church Road two miles into the community of Como.**





Named for Lake Como, Italy, the town was established in 1883. **Turn right onto U.S. 258.** Look closely for old plantation homes while traveling south along this short stretch.

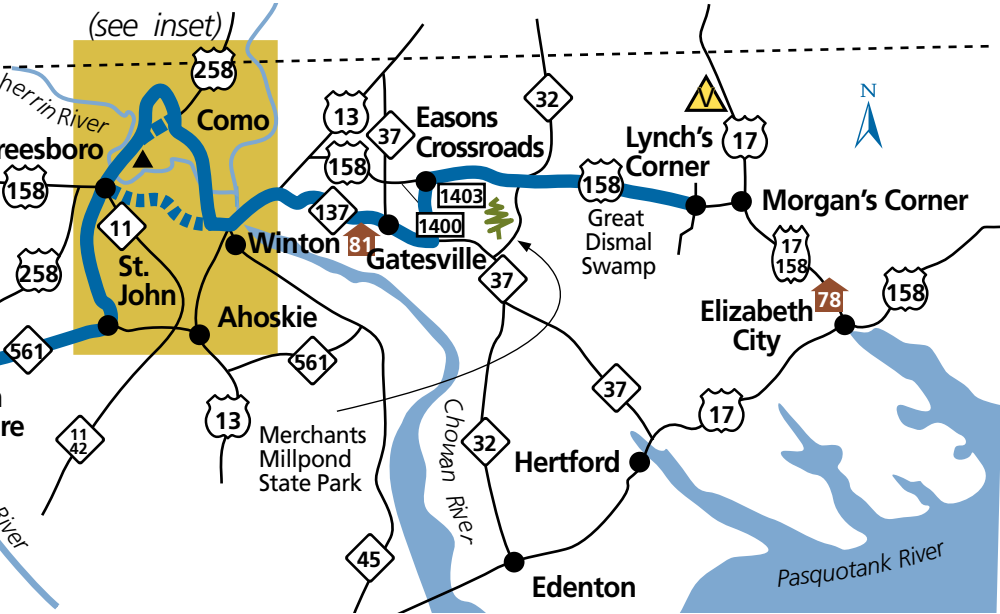


**Turn left onto Parker Ferry Road (S.R. 1306) and travel one mile south** through the Union Camp Paper Co.'s pulp forest **to the Parkers Island Cable Ferry**, one of the last two-car ferries operating in the state.

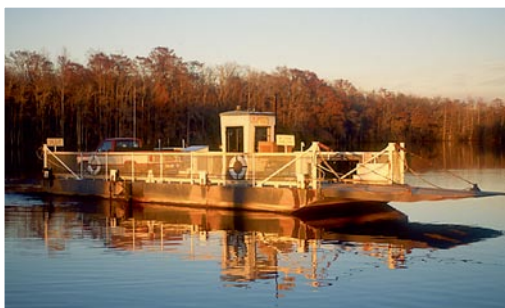
*NOTE: Recreational vehicles are too large for the ferry and should continue along U.S. 258 South to U.S. 158 and follow it to Winton.*

**Take the Parkers Island Cable Ferry**, which has operated across the Meherrin River near its junction with the Chowan River since the early 1900s. **Across the river, the byway continues along Parkers Fishery Road (S.R. 1175), which is unpaved, for 1.5 miles before intersecting with U.S. 158.**

**At the intersection, turn left. Continue along U.S. 158 South** over the Chowan River in Winton, the Hertford County seat. Built on the land of Benjamin Wynns in 1766, Winton was burned to the ground in 1862 by Union forces. C.S.



Brown founded Chowan Academy, one of the earliest schools for African-Americans, here in 1886. The Chowan River, named for the Chowanoc Indians, was explored around 1585 by Ralph Lane and again in 1622 by explorers from Jamestown. It was a major trade access route



NCDOT

Parkers Island Cable Ferry

for residents of the northeastern corner of the state.

**Cross into Gates County and continue three miles before turning right on N.C. 137 East to Gatesville.**

Settled in the 1700s, Gatesville was first called Bennetts Creek Landing when it became the county seat in 1779.

**From Gatesville, follow N.C. 37 South for three miles before turning left onto Mill Pond Road (S.R. 1400).**

**Follow this road north to Merchants Millpond State Park. To continue on the byway, veer right onto Pond Road (S.R. 1403) and travel to the Easons Crossroads community.**

**Turn right onto U.S. 158** along Lassiter Swamp that feeds Merchants Millpond into the Great Dismal Swamp. Thought to be more than 9,000 years old, the Great Dismal Swamp has decreased in size since the arrival of Europeans because of drainage and logging. This forested wetland was shown on maps as early as 1647 and is a 210,000-acre area of marsh, lake and cypress swamp. It was first named the Dismal Swamp in 1715. While the origin of the swamp's name is

unclear, in 1728, Col. William Byrd II was one of the first people to survey the North Carolina/Virginia state line through the

swamp and provide an extensive description of the area. George Washington surveyed this area in 1763 for a canal to drain part of the swamp for lumbering.

**The byway ends 16 miles later in the Pasquotank County community of Lynch's Corner at the intersection of Lynch's Corner Road (S.R. 1356) and U.S. 158.**

This intersection is four miles west of the Morgan's Corner community and U.S. 17. A Civil War battle was held at the Great Dismal Swamp Canal locks at nearby South Mills when Confederate forces were prevented from blowing up the locks to keep Union supplies from coming down the canal.

From Morgan's Corner, it is a short drive to the North Carolina Outer Banks. For more information about this area and the Outer Banks, visit the N.C. Welcome Center on U.S. 17, just three miles south of the Virginia border.



**Length: 173 miles**  
**Drive Time: Four hours**  
**Counties: Vance, Warren, Halifax, Northampton, Hertford, Gates and Pasquotank**



**Note: Recreational vehicles are not permitted on the cable ferry and will need to follow an alternate route.**

# TAR HEEL TRACE

The Tar Heel Trace byway winds through North Carolina's Coastal Plain from Wilson to Williamston and takes its name from the pine tar industry that once thrived in this portion of the state. "Tar Heel" is the nickname given to the state's residents by British Lt. Gen. Lord William Cornwallis' troops after they



N.C. Department of Agriculture

Soybean fields are common along this byway

emerged from the nearby Tar River with tar stuck to their boots. Another story says the ground alongside many of the state's river fronts was covered with tar that spilled from rafts bringing the product to market.

Pine trees are found in great quantities across North Carolina, particularly in the coastal plain. Early residents found that it was simple to cut these trees and pile the light or fat wood into piles and cover them with soil after setting them on fire. The piles, called tar kilns, were then left to smolder causing the pine resin to run out as a dark tar. Tar was used extensively in the shipping industry. The tar was distilled into turpentine and was used to waterproof rope and wood in the form of either pitch or tar.

**The byway's western terminus is the U.S. 301/N.C. 42 interchange east of Wilson** in Wilson County. **From here, travel east along N.C. 42.** Wilson was formed in 1849 when the towns of

Hickory Grove and Toisnot Depot merged in 1849 as a result of the construction of a new rail line. The new town was

named for Louis D. Wilson, a state senator and early advocate of the public school movement. Wilson was killed during the Mexican War of 1846–48.

The byway begins in the midst

of the Toisnot Swamp, some of which has been filled for development. **Travel nine miles from the byway's beginning to the Wilson/Edgecombe County line.** Pass through the communities of Wilbanks and Bridgesville, both of which were established at the turn of the century. **Shortly after crossing the county line, turn right onto N.C. 124.**

**Follow N.C. 124 for 3.5 miles to the town of Macclesfield.** Incorporated in 1901, Macclesfield was named for the town in England from which the ancestors of the town's founder had come. **Leaving town,** cross Bynum Mill Creek and **continue east for 5.5 miles crossing U.S. 258 before reaching the intersection of N.C. 124 and N.C. 42.**

**Turn right onto N.C. 42 and follow two miles to Old Sparta,** established in 1830 and incorporated in 1876. **Cross the Tar River immediately after passing through Old Sparta.** Legend has it that

the river was named for the tar produced in the counties through which it flowed, while others suggest that the river's name is derived from a American Indian word.

**Continue on N.C. 42 for almost six miles** passing by vast farms to the town of Conetoe, (pronounced Cuh-knee-ta), incorporated in 1887 and named for the nearby Conetoe Creek. **Continue on N.C. 42, cross U.S. 64, and travel eight miles to the Edgecombe/Martin County line.** Many of the vast fields the byway passes produce soybeans and peanuts.

**Continue another 2.5 miles to the N.C. 42/142 intersection with N.C. 11. Go straight at the stop sign to follow N.C. 142 for 2.5 miles** to the community of Hassell. Hassell, settled in 1878, was known as Dogville Crossroads until 1903. **Continue on N.C. 142 through Hassell 3.5 miles to the intersection of N.C. 142 and N.C. 125.** From Hassell to Williamston, the road crosses land drained by the Conoho Creek, a tributary of the Roanoke River located to the north.

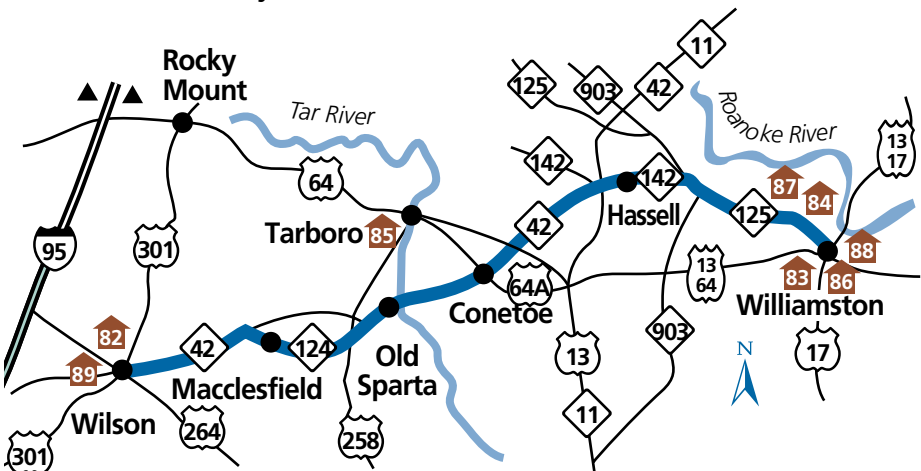
**Turn right at the stop sign onto N.C. 125 and continue for nine miles to the Williamston city limits in Martin**

**County, where the route ends.** Along this portion of the route, notice the numerous peanut sheds and silos. Peanuts are this region's main crop.

Williamston, named in honor of Col. William Williams who fought in the Revolutionary War, is located on the Roanoke River and is the Martin County seat. Settled in 1779, the town originally was called Skewarky for the plantation on which it was built. From Williamston, it is 14 miles to Windsor on U.S. 17 North where the Edenton-Windsor Loop Scenic Byway (pg. 125) begins or 23 miles to Washington along U.S. 64 East to the western terminus of the Pamlico Scenic Byway (pg. 130).



**Length: 53 miles**  
**Drive Time: One hour**  
**Counties: Wilson, Edgecombe and Martin**



# EDENTON-WINDSOR LOOP

The Edenton-Windsor Loop is a figure-eight loop that begins and ends in Edenton, the Chowan County seat.

**Beginning at the intersection of N.C. 32 (North Broad Street) and U.S. 17 Business (West Queen Street), follow U.S. 17 Business South across Pembroke Creek,** one of the two creeks that forms Edenton Bay.

Settled around 1685, Edenton was laid out in 1712 and incorporated in 1722. It was named for provincial Gov. Charles Eden. Visitors will notice numerous historical markers identifying the town's Revolutionary War leaders, as well as signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Edenton was one of the most prosperous ports on the trade route in the 18th and 19th centuries. The pirate Blackbeard made numerous stops here. Some of North Carolina's best public and private architecture also may be seen in town including the Cupola House, built in 1757 and considered the south's finest example of Jacobean architecture.

Boston was not the only Revolutionary War city to host a "tea party." Penelope Barker and several other ladies in town held their own such "party" in 1774. To

learn more about the history of the area, visit the Historic Edenton State Historic Site.

Tours begin at the Barker House on the waterfront in Historic Edenton.

**At the intersection of U.S. 17 and U.S. 17 Business, turn left onto U.S. 17 South and follow one mile to the Chowan River,** named around 1657 for a local tribe of Algonquin Indians. The Chowan River is nearly two miles wide at this point.

While crossing the bridge, if the water is low enough, travelers may notice regularly placed poles in the water near the shoreline, which were used during the early seine fishing industry. **Just after the bridge, pass through Edenhouse.** This community was the home of governors Charles Eden and Gabriel Johnston and was founded around 1671. **Continue another five miles to the intersection with N.C. 45 and turn left.**

**After three miles, turn right onto Sans Souci/Woodard Road (S.R. 1500).** *Sans Souci* is French for "without care or worry" and was the name of a plantation located nearby. **After crossing N.C. 308, continue on Sans Souci/Woodard Road nearly two miles.** Automobiles



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Cupola House in Historic Edenton

may cross the Cashie River on the Sans Souci Cable Ferry, one of the last two-car, cable-operated ferries in the state. *NOTE: Since this ferry cannot accommodate larger vehicles, recreational vehicles should not follow this leg of the route. Instead, backtrack to N.C. 308, turn left and travel to Windsor.*

The community of Sans Souci is just across the Cashie River, which is one of the few rivers in the nation with its complete course in one county. **Travel nearly four miles to the community of Woodard, and then seven miles to the U.S. 13/17 intersection.**

**Turn right onto U.S. 13/17 North and follow it for almost 1.5 miles before bearing right, then turning left onto U.S. 13 Business North (South Granville Street) into Windsor.** Named for Windsor Castle in England, Windsor was settled in 1722 and is the Bertie County seat. It was the site of Gray's Landing, a colonial trading point. Prior to the Civil War, Windsor was a major U.S. port of entry and business center on the road to Halifax. The main streets in town are King, York and Queen, with the cross streets named for the Lords Proprietors. Northwest of town is Hope Plantation, the home of Gov. David Stone. Built circa 1800, it is an impressive example of federal architecture. Admission is charged to this privately owned home in the National Register of Historic Places.

**South Granville Street becomes Granville Street at the intersection of U.S. 13 Business and N.C. 308. Turn right onto N.C. 308 (King Street).**

While in town, enjoy views of some of North Carolina's finest 19th and early 20th

century residential architecture. **Cross the Cashie River and follow U.S. 17/N.C. 308 for the next 1.5 miles before turning right to stay on N.C. 308. Continue along N.C. 308 for the next 11 miles as the byway again parallels the Cashie River.**

**At the stop sign, turn right and follow N.C. 45/308 across the Three Rivers Bridge,** which is located at the mouth of Bachelor Bay at the confluence of the Cashie, Middle and Roanoke rivers. Bachelor Bay forms the head of the Albemarle Sound and was the site of a Civil War battle won by Confederate forces in 1864.

**Continue on N.C. 308 another seven miles through Mackeys (known locally as Mackeys Ferry).** This community was originally the southern terminal of the Albemarle Sound ferry, which once operated where the railroad now crosses the sound. The earliest recorded ferry at this location was known as T. Bell's Ferry in 1733. Settled in 1765, Mackeys was named for Col. William Mackey, a local landowner who bought the ferry from Bell in 1735.

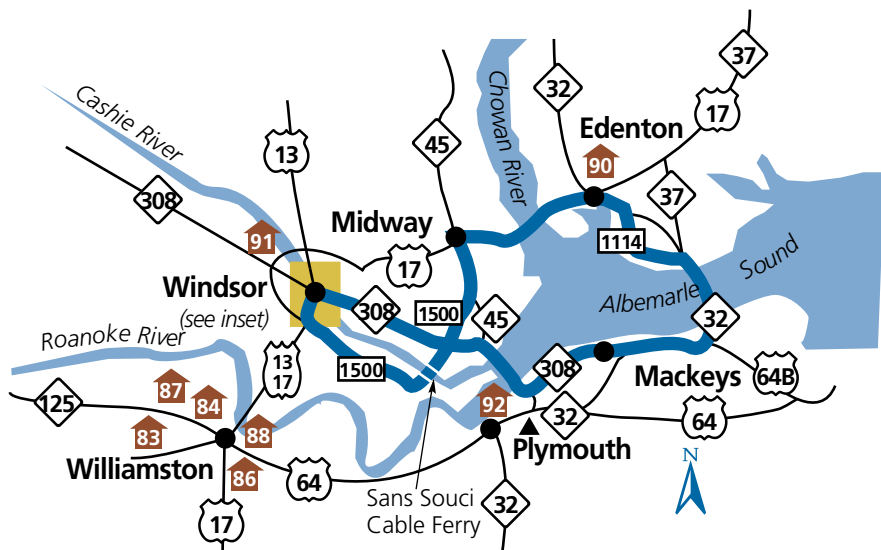
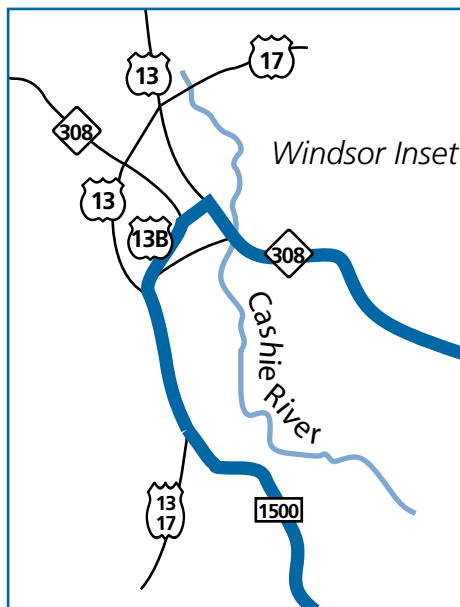
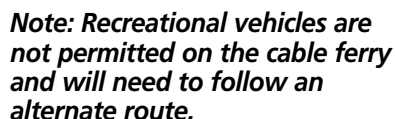
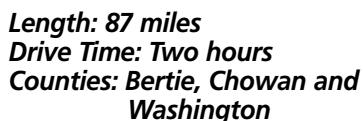
**Turn left onto N.C. 32,** and pass Rehoboth Church built by slaves in 1853 and located near the Skinnersville community. This chapel is built on the site of an earlier colonial Anglican church and is also listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

**The byway then joins with N.C. 94 and crosses the Albemarle Sound.** Europeans explored the Albemarle Sound as early as 1586, when it was called the Sea of Roanoke. Named for George Monck, the Duke of Albemarle, most of



**One mile after crossing the bridge, turn left onto N.C. 94 (Soundside Road).** This six-mile road follows a route built by early settlers along old American Indian trails that ran along the shores of the sound. Called Soundside Road for more than 200 years, early plantations were found along its path. **Follow this road until it intersects back with N.C. 32.**

The byway ends where it began at the intersection of N.C. 32 (North Broad Street) and U.S. 17 Business (West Queen Street).



# PERQUIMANS CROSSING

The Perquimans Crossing takes motorists through some of North Carolina's oldest inhabited lands. To begin following the byway at its northern terminus, **travel south along U.S. 17 from Elizabeth City 14 miles. Exit onto U.S. 17 Business South to begin following the route.**

**Continue south on U.S. 17 Business as N.C. 37 joins the route near Winfall.** Near here, the byway crosses Mill Creek, which was originally known

as Vosses Creek and was named for the family who owned the land before 1700. By the end of the 19th century, it was called Brights Mill Creek for the local mill owner.

**Continue south following U.S. 17 Business around the head of the Perquimans River through Hertford, the Perquimans County seat.** The Perquimans River empties into the Albemarle Sound about 10 miles southeast after crossing the length of the county that bears its name. Both the names of

the river and county come from an Algonquian name, *Pequaimings*. The byway crosses the Perquimans River on

a unique truss bridge. Crossing the river, the U.S. 17 Bypass bridge is on the left.

Settled in the early 1700s, Hertford was named for the Marquis of Hertford when it was incorporated in 1758. First called Phelps Point for the owner of the town's site, it was an early colonial port of entry around 1701. The county courthouse holds records from



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Newbold-White House

the late 1600s and includes the Durant Deed, the oldest deed on record in North Carolina, dated March 1, 1661. Residences of early political leaders may be found near town.

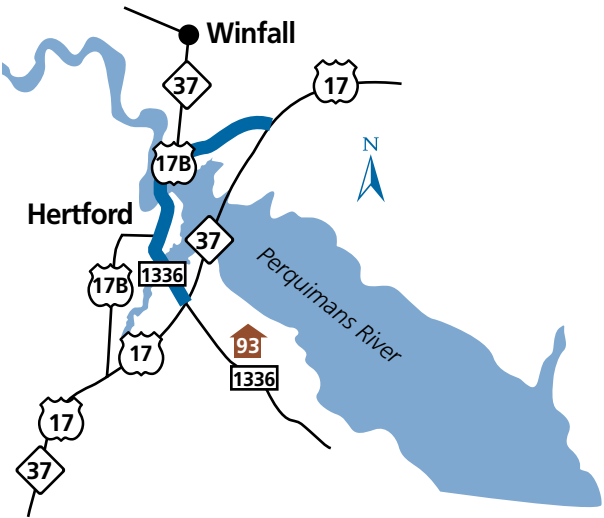
**Continue straight on Church Street (S.R. 1336) across Raccoon Creek.** This creek was known during colonial times as Castleton Creek and was named after early land owner George Castleton. The water it carries from Bear Swamp in the south meets the Perquimans River on the left as the byway crosses the bridge one-half mile

before **the route ends at the U.S. 17 Bypass intersection.**

To see one of the oldest houses in North Carolina, **continue along Church Street for about 1.5 miles.** The Newbold-White House was built about 1730. Located on land granted to Joseph Scott in 1684, it is now a local historic site with tours available.



***Length: Three miles***  
***Drive Time: 10 minutes***  
***County: Perquimans***



# PAMLICO SCENIC BYWAY

**Beginning at the Washington waterfront, the Pamlico Scenic Byway follows the Pamlico River to the Pamlico Sound at its junction with the Croatan Sound.**

The Pamlico River begins west of Washington at the Beaufort County line where the Tar River and Tranters Creek meet.

*Pamlico* was the name of an American Indian tribe that once lived in the area. The river, first explored by Europeans in 1584, extends 33 miles from

Washington to the Pamlico Sound, which is 80 miles long and 15 to 30 miles wide. It covers more than 1,800 square miles and has a maximum depth of 21 feet. The Pamlico Sound drains water from the Albemarle Sound along with the Neuse and Pamlico rivers through the Ocracoke and Oregon inlets to the Atlantic Ocean.

The town of Washington, located at the head of the Pamlico River, was originally called Forks of the Tar River. In 1776, the town founder changed the name to honor his friend George Washington. Therefore, Washington, N.C., has the distinction of being the first town in the United States named after the legendary George Washington. As the Beaufort County seat, Washington has a

unique 18th century layout, though few of the original buildings remain due to fires during the Civil War.



St. Thomas Episcopal Church

**From the intersection of U.S. 17 and Main Street in Washington, begin following the byway along the waterfront east on Main Street to Stewart Parkway. Turn right on Stewart Parkway as it curves around waterfront warehouses and becomes Water Street. Turn left**

**onto Harvey Street and then turn right back onto Main Street and pass the municipal park on the Pamlico River while continuing east to N.C. 32 on the eastern edge of Washington Park.**

**Follow N.C. 32 for 5.5 miles to the Broad Creek Bridge and the intersection with Harvey Road (S.R. 1331). Turn right, and continue by farmlands four miles to the intersection with N.C. 92 and U.S. 264 in Jessema. Follow N.C. 92 nearly six miles past the entrance to Goose Creek State Park and into the town of Bath.**

Settled in 1690 and incorporated in 1705, Bath is the oldest incorporated town in North Carolina. Virginians and French Protestants settled the area around Bath

when it was called the town of Pamticoe (an early version of Pamlico). Located on what was called Town Creek and is now known as Bath Creek, Bath is home to the oldest church in North Carolina, St. Thomas Church, built in 1734. Royal Gov. Charles Eden had a provincial capital at Bath while Edward Teach, better known as the pirate Blackbeard, is said to have made his home on nearby Plum Point. Bath is now a state historic site with several restored buildings open to the public. Take a walking tour of the town to appreciate its 18th century flavor.

**After touring Bath, cross Back Creek and continue along N.C. 92 about five miles to its intersection with N.C. 306 where the road becomes N.C. 99.** From here, the road turns north to skirt Jackson Swamp to the northwest and the Pungo River to the east. **Follow N.C. 99 seven miles to the bridge at Pungo Creek.** The creek and the river both derive their names from *Machapunga*, an American Indian name given to them as early as 1733. **From here, travel 3.5 miles to the Pantego Creek and Belhaven town limits.**

**At the stoplight in Belhaven, turn right to follow U.S. 264 Business through town.** Located on the site of a American Indian village called Aquascogoc, Belhaven was settled in 1890 and incorporated in 1899. The town derives its name from the French words *belle* and *haven* — meaning “beautiful harbor”. It is a major stopping point for boats traveling the Intracoastal Waterway. **Join U.S. 264 East and continue 5.5 miles to the Pungo River Bridge at the community of Leechville. Continue another**

**4.5 miles to the bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway, which offers an impressive view of the waterway for miles to the northeast.**

**After N.C. 45 joins the byway, continue four miles to Scranton,** named for a lumber mill owner from Scranton, Pa. who settled here. Just past Scranton, enjoy a beautiful stretch of road where drainage canals and trees on both sides of the route form a unique and protective seven-mile tunnel with views of vast fields and tree farms on either side. While passing through the community of Rose Bay, travel parallel to the Swan Quarter National Wildlife Refuge, which covers the Pamlico Sound coast near the town of Swan Quarter.

**Turn right 2.5 miles after Rose Bay onto N.C. 45 and follow it into the town of Swan Quarter.** Settled before 1836, this fishing community is the Hyde County seat. Travel through the town on N.C. 45 to the Swan Quarter Ferry Terminal, which carries passengers to Ocracoke Island and the Outer Banks Scenic Byway (pg. 139).

**To continue along the Pamlico Scenic Byway, leave town by way of Main Street (S.R. 1129), which leads back to U.S. 264 East.** The farms on both sides of the road are on lands reclaimed by draining the surrounding swamps. This practice, called “swamp busting,” is no longer allowed as these wetlands are now protected for the vital role they serve.

**Continue east on U.S. 264, but be cautious of the elbow curves before and after Haw Branch Road (S.R. 1129) near Swindell Fork.** At the second curve, the road begins to follow the southern

shoreline of Lake Mattamuskeet, a natural freshwater lake of about 50,000 acres discovered in 1585. Its name is derived from a American Indian word that means “moving swamp” or “shallow lake.” This is appropriate, since the deepest point in the lake measures only five feet. Near the community of Lake Comfort is the intersection of U.S. 264 and N.C. 94, the southern terminus of the Alligator River Route (pg. 134).

**From this intersection, travel 8.5 miles to Lake Landing.** This area marks the state’s largest rural historic district. Watch closely for older buildings along this stretch, including the octagonal house known as the Ink Bottle House. In addition to the historical aspects of this section, observe the vast farmlands that attract numerous hunting clubs. Between the communities of New Holland and Lake Landing, Lake Mattamuskeet is visible on the left.

The community of New Holland, settled in 1910, was named for the development company that tried to drain Lake Mattamuskeet. Lake Landing was the site of the Hyde County courthouse from 1820 to 1836.

**Watch for another sharp curve near the community of Amity, about four miles east of Lake Landing at the intersection of U.S. 264 and North Lake Road (S.R. 1311).** From here, the byway turns away from the lake’s shore. **It is one mile to the village of Engelhard.** Located on Far Creek between Lake Mattamuskeet and the Pamlico Sound, Engelhard was first named Far Creek Landing. In 1874, Engelhard was given its current name in honor of the publisher

of the Wilmington newspaper. *NOTE: Engelhard is the last stop for restrooms or fuel until Manns Harbor, 40 miles away.*

Leaving Engelhard, look to the right to see the Pamlico Sound. **Continue on U.S. 264 through the wetlands and maritime forests of the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. From the Far Creek bridge, travel 11.5 miles to the Dare/Hyde County line.**

Stumpy Point Bay and the fishing village of Stumpy Point are 13 miles from the county line. Founded in 1733, the village is about two miles from U.S. 264.





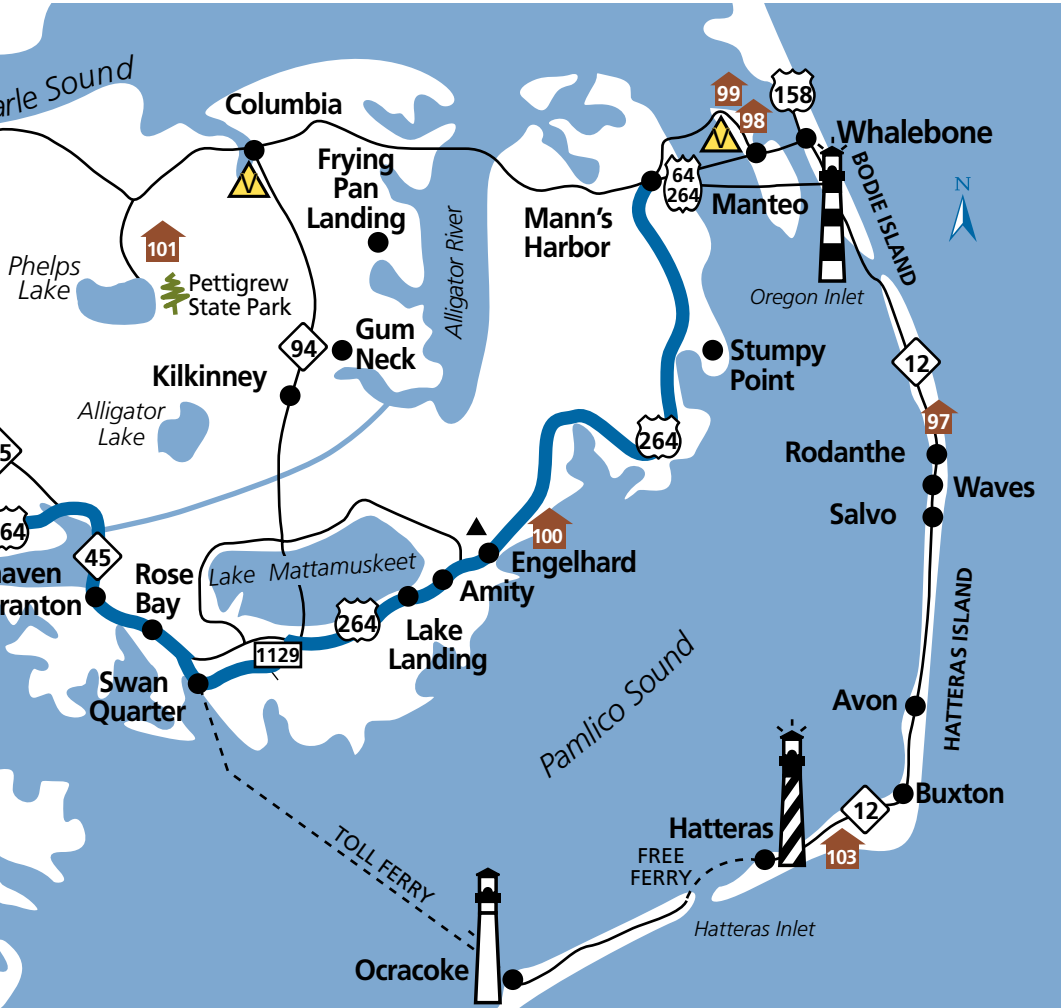
The bay was once a lake, but now opens into the Pamlico Sound. A major portion of the commercial fishing fleet that comes through Oregon Inlet is based here (the rest are based in Wanchese on Roanoke Island). The U.S. 64 intersection with U.S. 264 is another 13 miles from Stumpy Point. **This intersection of U.S. 64/264 marks the end of this scenic byway.**

Note the old U.S. Army and Navy bombing ranges nearby along U.S. 264. Also, be sure to watch for red wolves (an endangered species) along the last portion of the route while traveling through the

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. For more historical and recreational attractions, visit Roanoke Island and the Outer Banks.



**Length: 127 miles**  
**Drive Time: 3 hours**  
**Counties: Beaufort, Hyde and Dare**



# ALLIGATOR RIVER ROUTE

The Alligator River Route allows motorists to explore some of coastal North Carolina's most rural areas as it travels through expansive wetlands and open farmlands.

**From the byway's southern end, at the intersection of U.S. 264 and N.C. 94 in the Hyde County community of New**

**Holland, follow N.C. 94 North across Lake Mattamuskeet**, a 50,000-acre natural freshwater lake. Discovered in 1585, this lake is the largest natural lake in North Carolina. Its name is derived from the American Indian word for "moving swamp" or "shallow lake," which is appropriate given its maximum depth of only five feet.

Attempts have been made over the years to drain the lake to create farmlands, but they have failed because the lake sits just three feet below sea level. Mattamuskeet's old pumping plant is now used as an observation tower to view wildlife. The N.C. 94 causeway spans nearly six miles across the lake and offers an opportunity to view migratory birds throughout the year. Located along the Atlantic flyway, the Mattamuskeet National

Wildlife Refuge borders the lake's shores and provides waterfowl a safe haven.

Fairfield, located on the north shore of Lake Mattamuskeet, was incorporated in 1885. It was named for the "fair fields" of reclaimed swampland located nearby. **Five miles north of Fairfield the byway crosses**

**the Intracoastal Waterway**, which follows the length of the Eastern Seaboard. Construction of the waterway began as early as 1856 and was completed during the 1940s.

**Just north of the Intracoastal Waterway, the byway crosses the Alligator River into Tyrrell County.**

Seven miles west of this point is Alligator Lake, known locally as New Lake. Named around 1624, the lake covers 3.5 square miles and drains surrounding swamplands. The Alligator River and N.C. 94 follow a parallel path for the next nine miles. **The byway crosses the west fork of the Alligator River about one mile south of Gumneck Road** (S.R. 1321), which appropriately leads to the community of Gum Neck.

**The byway then passes Frying Pan**



NCDOT

Lake Mattamuskeet

**Road (S.R. 1307), located 7.5 miles north of Gumneck Road**, which leads to the community of Frying Pan Landing, named for an unusually shaped bay along the Alligator River. The flat lands at this point on the byway comprise part of the Hollow Ground Swamp. Some of these lands were claimed through a former process called “swamp busting” to create farmlands. Now prohibited, the process had allowed landowners to drain swamps by constructing canals and drainage ways to direct the water away from the fertile soil.

**Columbia, the Tyrell County seat, is located seven miles north of Frying Pan Road.** Columbia was founded in the early 1700s as a trading post on the Scuppernong River. **At the traffic light in Columbia at U.S. 64, continue straight. At the next block, turn right onto U.S. 64 Business and drive through downtown. Turn left onto U.S. 64 and continue east.**

An area of straight marsh or slough named the Big Savannah covers the area from Columbia to Alligator, a community eight miles down the byway. The canal alongside U.S. 64 was constructed to provide drainage for the highway. Alligator Creek (which is not visible from the route) flows east as it parallels the road to the north. **From Alligator, travel five miles to the Alligator River.** While crossing the river, look left. In the distance is where the Alligator River enters the Albemarle Sound. The 2.7-mile bridge is an active drawbridge, so be prepared to stop.

**Across the river, the byway enters Dare County** and the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge was

established to protect a unique pocosin habitat and restore wetlands for native and endangered species. Look carefully for wildlife in and near the drainage canal alongside the highway. **The community of East Lake is one mile from the bridge. From here, continue 13 miles through the swamp to the intersection of U.S. 64 and U.S. 264. Turn left and follow U.S. 64 for 1.5 miles to the stop sign.**

**Turn left again onto U.S. 64 and drive through the fishing village of Mann’s Harbor**, settled in the 19th century and named for a German fishing captain who sheltered here during a storm. Note the tiny white frame post office on the right while traveling through the community before crossing the Croatan Sound on U.S. 64 to Roanoke Island.

The Croatan Sound, named for an American Indian tribe, connects the Albemarle and Pamlico sounds by way of the bridge. **Roanoke Island was the site of the first English settlement in the United States, located one mile after the bridge at the Fort Raleigh National Monument and Elizabethan Gardens, where the byway ends.** This English settlement, sponsored in part by Sir Walter Raleigh for Queen Elizabeth I, was established in 1587. By 1590, it had vanished. During the summer months, visitors may see productions of “The Lost Colony,” an outdoor drama about this settlement.

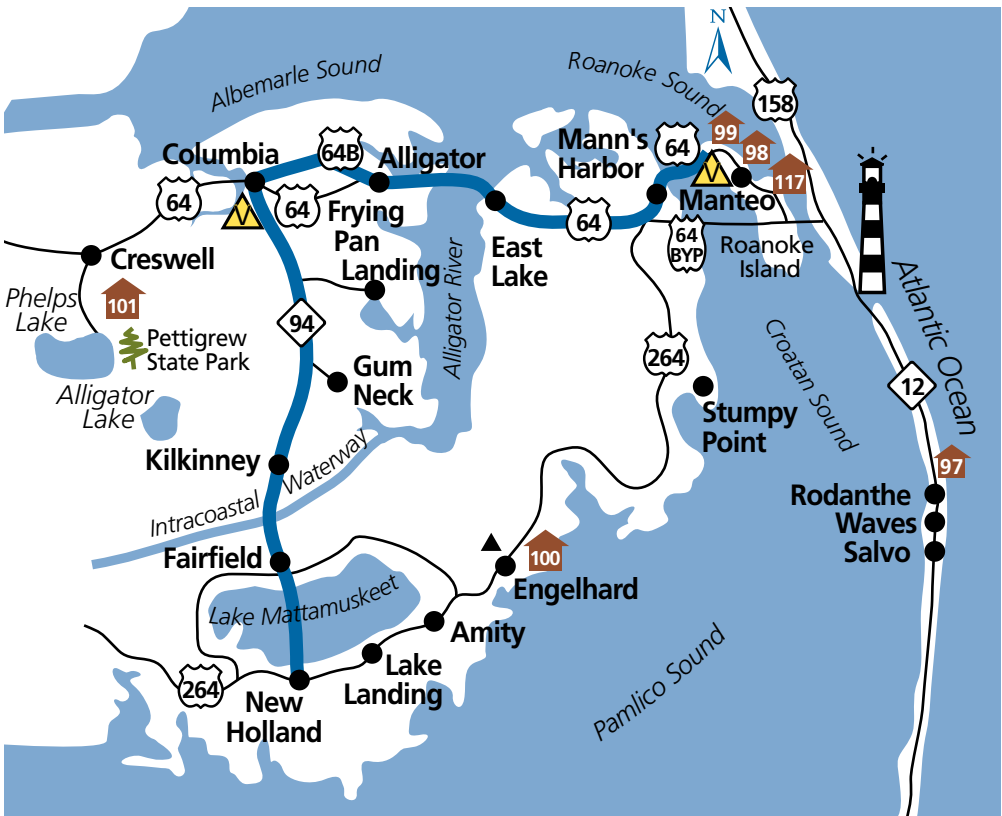
Visitors may also want to visit the *Elizabeth II* at Roanoke Island Festival Park in Manteo, just down the road. Representative of the type of ship used during the 1585 voyage to Roanoke, the

*Elizabeth II* is a living museum of the 16th century and is located on Shallowbag Bay. For those interested in marine life, visit the N.C. Aquarium on Roanoke Island, also in Manteo.



**Length: 71 miles**  
**Drive Time: 1.5 hours**  
**Counties: Hyde, Tyrrell and Dare**

Other points of interest may be found elsewhere along the Outer Banks, including the Wright Brothers National Memorial and Jockeys Ridge State Park, the largest active sand dune on the East Coast. Other nearby scenic byways include the Roanoke Voyages Corridor (pg. 137), Outer Banks Scenic Byway (pg. 139) that runs south from Nags Head along N.C. 12 to Beaufort, and the Pamlico Scenic Byway (pg. 130) that travels from U.S. 264 to Washington.



# ROANOKE VOYAGES CORRIDOR

The Roanoke Voyages Corridor carries motorists by monuments of time and history as it travels across Roanoke Island in Dare County.

**The byway follows U.S. 64 across the island from the Croatan Sound Bridge to the Roanoke Sound Bridge.**

Roanoke Island, named after an early Indian village, was the site of the first English settlement in North America. This attempt proved disastrous when returning colonists to the island found that the English men, women and children who had established this first colony had vanished. The "Lost Colony" is still a mystery today, but visitors can experience this historic unsolved tale by attending the state's longest running outdoor drama, "The Lost Colony." The Waterside Theater is located within the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site along with the enchanting Elizabethan Gardens.

The island also offers the quaint villages of Manteo and Wanchese, named for two friendly Roanoke Indians carried back to England and enlisted by Sir Walter Raleigh to gain support for further travel to the new world. Manteo has a

beautiful waterfront with many shops and restaurants. Cross over the bridge at the waterfront and visit the Roanoke Island

Festival Park, home of the *Elizabeth II*, a restored 16th century transatlantic vessel. Or travel to Wanchese, a quaint fishing village located south of Manteo along N.C. 345 on



N.C. Travel & Tourism

*Elizabeth II*

the mainland.

Other attractions on the island include a multi-use trail, the N.C. Aquarium, wildlife viewing, boating and fishing. Stay here and explore Roanoke Island or continue driving to the Outer Banks. Follow U.S. 64 East to connect to the Outer Banks Scenic Byway (pg. 139) at Whalebone Junction or travel on U.S. 64 West to meet the Pamlico Scenic Byway (pg. 130) and Alligator River Route (pg. 134) in Manns Harbor.

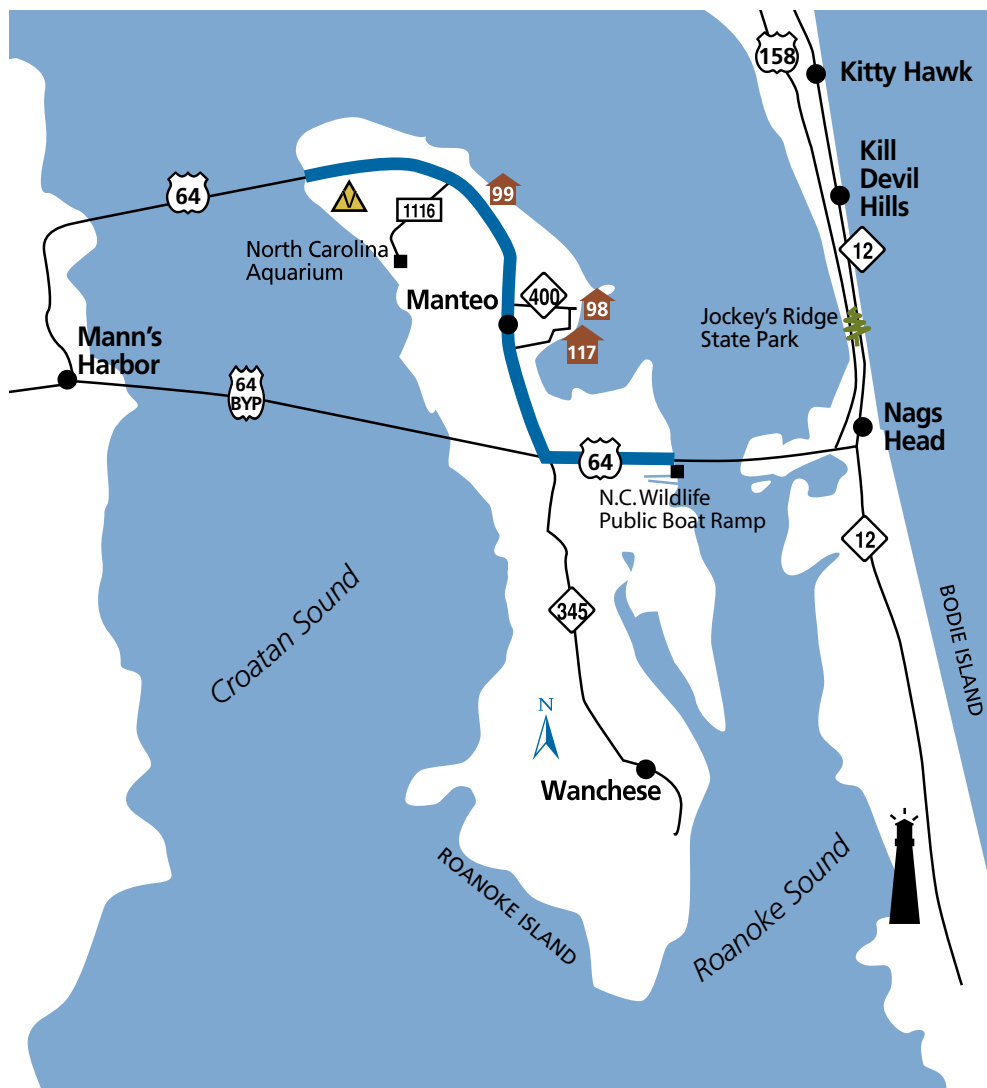


**Length: 9 miles**

**Drive Time: 15 minutes**

**(allow additional time to stop and see the attractions)**

**County: Dare**





# OUTER BANKS SCENIC BYWAY

From Whalebone Junction in Dare County to Beaufort in Carteret County, the Outer Banks Scenic Byway traces the easternmost parts of North Carolina along the state's barrier islands.

North Carolina's barrier islands extend from the Virginia border south to Cape Lookout. They are separated from the mainland by six broad yet shallow sounds — from north to south, Currituck, Albemarle, Roanoke, Pamlico, Core and Bogue. These sounds range from three to 40 miles wide. Pamlico Sound is the largest sound along the U.S. East Coast, covering more than 1,800 square miles. It is visible to the west along many portions of the byway. The byway crosses its waters when taking the ferry from Ocracoke Island to both Hatteras and Cedar Island.

Currently, nine major islands, or banks, protect the mainland coast from the Atlantic Ocean's onslaught of winds and water. From north to south, these barrier islands are: Currituck Banks, Bodie (pronounced "body") Island, Pea Island, Hatteras Island, Ocracoke Island, Portsmouth Island, Core Banks, Shackleford Banks and Bogue Banks. Wind and water

shift the sands of these islands, which makes them transient not only in location but also in name.



Ocracoke Lighthouse

**Whalebone Junction, along N.C. 12 where the byway begins, is located near the site of New Inlet.**

This inlet opened in the 1720s and closed periodically until its last closing in the 1930s. Whalebone Junction received its name for a skeleton of a whale that beached nearby in 1927. The junction is at the end of Currituck Banks,

the northernmost barrier island in North Carolina. **Beginning at the stoplight where U.S. 64/158 and N.C. 12 intersect,** follow N.C. 12 South into the Cape Hatteras National Seashore on Bodie Island.

**Continue past the Bodie Island Lighthouse,** which was built in 1872 to replace the original lighthouse destroyed in the Civil War. Its 150-foot black and white banded stripe can be seen for several miles. A swimming beach and recreation center is located nearby at Coquina Beach.

**Eleven miles south of Whalebone Junction, the byway crosses over Oregon Inlet onto Pea Island.** Oregon Inlet opened in 1846 during a hurricane

and was crossed mainly by ferry until 1963 when the Herbert C. Bonner Bridge was opened. Pea Island is entirely a National Wildlife Refuge and Migratory Waterfowl Refuge. The small wooden structures with stairs facing the natural freshwater ponds are wildlife observation stands. In Rodanthe is the Chicamacomico Coast Guard Station, which operated from 1874 to 1954. The historic station is now open for tours. Pea Island is sometimes called Chicamacomico Banks, which comes from the Algonquian word for “sinking down sand.”

**After leaving Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, continue toward Cape Hatteras through the communities of Rodanthe, Waves and Salvo. From Salvo travel 12 miles to the community of Avon, established in 1873 as Kinnakeet. From there, drive six miles to Buxton,** known as “The Cape” until it was incorporated in 1882 as Buxton. Buxton is home of the famous Cape Hatteras Lighthouse and is the easternmost point in North Carolina.

At 208 feet, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse is the tallest lighthouse in the United States and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1873, its black and white candy-striped tower is visible for several miles. The original lighthouse was decommissioned in 1936 and was replaced with a more powerful beam to warn ships away from nearby Diamond Shoals. The shoals’ turbulent waters caused ships to wreck, giving the area the infamous nickname “the Graveyard of the Atlantic.” The lighthouse is operated by the National Park Service and is open for tours.





After passing through Buxton, **travel five miles to the community of Frisco**, settled in 1795. Six miles farther

is the village of Hatteras. Throughout these small villages reside “hoi toiders” (high tiders), people who have retained an Elizabethan dialect due to their relatively isolated

residence on these islands.

**To continue on the byway, cross Hatteras Inlet to Ocracoke Island on the state’s free ferry.** The crossing time is about 40 minutes. The present Hatteras Inlet opened in 1846.

Upon arriving on Ocracoke Island, follow **N.C. 12 for 13 miles across the island to the village of Ocracoke**. Along the way is a pony pasture. The horses that live here are called Bankers Ponies, descendants of horses brought by early explorers on ships wrecked in the Atlantic. A herd is also maintained on the islands south of Beaufort.

Ocracoke was first called Wococon in the 1500s (when it was an Indian village) and has since gone through a series of names derived from the Algonquian word for “enclosed place.” One of the oldest operating lighthouses on the Atlantic coast is located on Silver Lake, a tidal basin and harbor in the village of Ocracoke. The 76-foot-tall Ocracoke Island Lighthouse was built in 1823 and is North Carolina’s

only operational lighthouse within a town. Ocracoke Inlet, once the state’s primary trade inlet, was the site of the death of the

notorious pirate Blackbeard, who was killed on Nov. 22, 1718.

From Ocracoke Inlet, take one of two tolled ferry routes.

**To continue along the Outer Banks Scenic Byway,**

**take the Cedar Island ferry to Cedar Island** in Carteret County. **Or travel the Alligator River Route (pg. 134) or Pamlico Scenic byways (pg. 130) by taking the Swan Quarter ferry to Swan Quarter.**

*NOTE: Reservations are recommended for both ferries, especially in the summer due to high traffic volume and tight time schedules. More information about reservations and schedules can be found on [www.ncferry.org](http://www.ncferry.org) or by calling 1-800-BY-FERRY. The crossing time to Swan Quarter is about 2.5 hours and the crossing time to Cedar Island is about 2 hours and 15 minutes.*

Just after departing for Cedar Island, look to the east (left). On a clear day, Portsmouth Island may be visible in the distance. Settled in the 1700s and incorporated in 1753, Portsmouth was one of North Carolina’s busiest ports of entry and a resort before the Civil War. It was known at one time as the “shipping capital of the Outer Banks.” The town was named



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Beaufort waterfront

for Portsmouth, England. The buildings on the island are the few remaining houses and church of the townspeople, the last of whom left in 1971. The Cape Lookout National Seashore manages the island and allows a limited number of day visitors (accommodated by private ferry) to explore the island. Portsmouth Island is a National Register Historic District.

The ferry docks at the northern end of Carteret County on Cedar Island. **From Cedar Island, continue south on N.C. 12** through the Cedar Island National Wildlife Refuge, home to waterfowl on their winter migration. Enjoy spectacular views of salt marshes and small fishing villages. **N.C. 12 ends and the road becomes U.S. 70 West** about 12 miles south of the ferry terminal. The body of water to the left is the Core Sound, named for the Coree Indians who once lived in this area.

**Pass through the community of Stacy before arriving in Davis.** From Davis, the Cape Lookout Lighthouse may be visible over the water. Built in 1859, the Cape Lookout Lighthouse is distinct with its black and white diamond pattern covering the 160-foot tower. **After Davis, pass through Willston before arriving in Smyrna. From Smyrna, travel through Otway and Bettie before crossing the North River. From the North River, continue six miles to the Beaufort city limits where the route ends.**

Beaufort was laid out in 1715 and settled soon thereafter. It was incorporated in 1723 and named for Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort and a lords proprietor. The town is located on the site of an earlier Indian village. A walk through historic Beaufort and along the waterfront provides

a great place to stretch and enjoy a historic coastal community. From whaling to salt works, with military battles in between, Beaufort is rich in history.

*NOTE: In warmer weather, this byway is a well-traveled road. Plan for extra time to make the ferry connections and to accommodate bicyclists and other tourists. Also, park only in designated places as sand is more difficult to drive out of than ice and snow.*



**Length: 111 driving miles**  
**Drive Time: 5.5 hours**  
**(including 3.5 hours on**  
**two ferries)**  
**Counties: Dare, Hyde**  
**and Carteret**



# STATE PARKS & RECREATION AREAS



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Camping in North Carolina



## **Carolina Beach State Park**

Spot the Venus Flytrap and other species of insect-eating plants. Wind your way through a variety of habitats along intriguing trails and stop to identify more than 30 species of coastal trees, shrubs and flowering plants. Our full-service marina will enhance your enjoyment of the Cape Fear River and adjoining waterway where excellent fishing and boating await the sports enthusiast.

Address: 1010 State Park Road,  
P.O. Box 475  
Carolina Beach, NC 28428  
Office: (910) 458-8206  
Marina: (910) 458-7770



## **Chimney Rock State Park**

Chimney Rock has been a tourist destination in Western North Carolina since a crude stairway was built to the rock's summit in 1885. In 1902, Lucius B. Morse of Missouri bought the site. The Morse family

developed park facilities including a tunnel and elevator to the rock summit, a visitor center, nature center and a network of hiking trails to geologic points of interest and the 404-foot-tall Hickory Nut Falls. The state purchased the park in 2007.

Address: U.S. 64/74-A, P.O. Box 220  
Chimney Rock, NC 28720  
(800) 277-9611 or (828) 625-9611



## **Cliffs of the Neuse State Park**

Witness the effects of the forces of erosion, which have carved and chiseled cliffs in the west bank of the Neuse River. Here ancient mountain communities meet coastal ones and mountain galax grows on rich slopes overlooking coastal trees draped in Spanish moss. The river and its banks are a haven for fishing and canoeing. Creative dioramas and audio visuals in the museum depict the geology and natural history of the region.

Address: 345-A Park Entrance Road  
Seven Springs, NC 28578  
(919) 778-6234



## **Crowders Mountain State Park**

Climb rugged peaks rising 800 feet above the surrounding countryside and watch raptors soar in the wind currents. Rocky ledges and outcrops are the perfect seats from which to view the panorama below. Travel trails on foot for a closer look at this highland environment.

Address: 522 Park Office Lane  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
(704) 853-5373





### **Dismal Swamp State Park**

Feel your daily stresses melt away as you cross the historic Dismal Swamp Canal and walk along the 300-foot boardwalk into this geological wonder. Experience firsthand the lush swamp forest and get up close and personal with the wide variety of wildlife. Discover the uniqueness of a million-year-old habitat at the Dismal Swamp State Park.

For the adventurer, there are 16.7 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails. Or, enjoy a leisurely paddle down the Dismal Swamp Canal in your canoe or kayak.

Address: 2294 U.S. 17 North  
South Mills, NC 27976  
(252) 771-6593 or (252) 771-6582



### **Elk Knob State Natural Area**

Elk Knob State Natural Area is one of the newest additions and is in the process of being developed as a state park. Visit [www.ncparks.gov](http://www.ncparks.gov) to learn more about the amenities available at this new park.

Address: 5564 Meat Camp Road  
Todd, NC 28684  
(828) 297-7261



### **Eno River State Park**

Test your skills in a raft or canoe. The spring and fall months often bring swirling rapids to the Eno. Try your luck fishing along the river banks or stroll across the swinging bridge for a hike through the woods. Backpack primitive camping offers refuge from the hustle and bustle of the city.

Address: 6101 Cole Mill Road  
Durham, NC 27705  
(919) 383-1686



### **Falls Lake State Recreation Area**

Moments away from the hustle and bustle of the Research Triangle, this 12,000-acre lake and 26,000 acres of woodlands offer a variety of activities. Come for the day and bring along your fishing gear and picnic basket. Put your boat in the water. Take a dip in one of the designated swimming areas. Or spend a few days in the family or group campgrounds. B.W. Wells, U.S. 50, Holly Point, Rollingview, Beaverdam, Sandling Beach and Shinleaf, as well as the privately operated Rollingview Marina, will fit the bill no matter what your fancy.

Address: 13304 Creedmoor Road  
Wake Forest, NC 27587  
(919) 676-1027



### **Fort Fisher State Recreation Area**

Spend the day away from the crowds on a four-mile stretch of undeveloped beach where shell-seekers still find treasures and nesting loggerhead sea turtles still find seclusion. Watch pelicans and other colonial nesting birds swirl and turn with the wind and waves. Licensed four-wheel-drive vehicles may travel on the beach in designated areas for access to excellent surf fishing.

Address: 1000 Loggerhead Road  
Kure Beach, NC 28449  
(910) 458-5798



### **Fort Macon State Park**

Enjoy all of the sun, sand, sea and history you can soak up in a day. Even Blackbeard the Pirate used to drop by once upon a time. After a day of beach combing, cool off on a tour of the restored fort that stood guard over Beaufort Harbor during the Civil War.

Address: 2300 E. Fort Macon Road,  
P.O. Box 127  
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512  
(252) 726-2295



### **Goose Creek State Park**

Canoe the unhurried creeks or cast your line into the Pamlico River.

Stately live oaks draped with Spanish moss form the perfect backdrop for outdoor relaxation. Experience the mysterious wonders of marsh and swamp from wooded trails and two observation decks.

Address: 2190 Camp Leach Road  
Washington, NC 27889  
(252) 923-2191



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Fort Macon



### **Gorges State Park**

Plunging waterfalls, rugged river gorges, sheer rock walls and one of

the greatest concentrations of rare and unique species in the eastern United States are found within Gorges State Park. An elevation that rises 2,000 feet in only four miles, combined with rainfall in excess of 80 inches per year, creates a temperate rain forest and supports a collection of waterfalls.

Address: N.C. 281 South,  
P.O. Box 100  
Sapphire, N.C. 28774  
(828) 966-9099



### **Hanging Rock State Park**

Visit the “mountains away from the mountains” and choose your

accommodations from cabins to campsites. Sparkling mountain streams, waterfalls and cascades travel over rugged terrain. Encounter more than 300 species of mountain plants along miles of nature and hiking trails. The observation tower atop Moore’s Knob offers rewarding panoramic views.

Address: 2015 Hanging Rock Park Road,  
P.O. Box 278  
Danbury, NC 27016  
(336) 593-8480



### **Hammocks Beach State Park**

Accessible only by passenger ferry or private boat, there’s just one thing at

Hammocks Beach that’s crowded — the list of things to do. Stroll the beach with laughing gulls and sandpipers. Cast a baited hook into endless rows of foaming breakers. Discover tiny specimens of marine life in tidal pools and mudflats. Use a camera or paintbrush to capture the green and gold grasses that color the salt marshes. Spend the night among the sand dunes, or simply bask in the sun and do nothing at all.

Address: 1572 Hammocks Beach Road  
Swansboro, NC 28584  
(910) 326-4881



### **Haw River State Park**

Located near the headwaters of the Haw River, Haw River State

Park and Summit Environmental Education Center is situated on nearly 300 acres of piedmont forest, fields, wetlands and uplands. Haw River State Park was authorized by the General Assembly in 2003 and is in development for future public use.

Address: 339 Conference Center Drive  
Browns Summit, NC 27214  
(336) 342-6163



### **Jockey's Ridge State Park**

Go fly a kite on the highest sand dune on the East Coast. Orville and Wilbur Wright were the first to take advantage of the area's prevailing winds, ranging from 10 to 15 miles per hour. The ridge, a favorite spot for playing in the sand, offers an exhilarating view of coastal North Carolina. Fascinating facts about this magnificent pile of sand can be learned at the museum.

Address: P.O. Box 592  
Nags Head, NC 27959  
(252) 441-7132



### **Jones Lake State Park**

Picnic under a canopy of old cypress trees or go for a dip in the cool, tea-colored lake. Jones Lake is one of the few remaining Carolina bay lakes, the origin of which has long been a subject of speculation and debate. Enjoy the lake while rowing or fishing, or stay for a while in the family campground.

Address: 4117 N.C. 242 North  
Elizabethtown, NC 28337  
(910) 588-4550



### **Kerr Lake State Recreation Area**

Set sail for Kerr Lake. One thousand family campsites in seven recreation areas are home away from home to boaters, skiers and fishermen. Of course, there is plenty of reason to come just for the day. Special events held throughout the year include a spring art show, amateur striped bass fishing tournament and the Governor's Cup Invitational Regatta. Tucked along the shoreline are some of the best fishing holes in North Carolina. Picnic spots are plentiful. Two commercial marinas offer full service for boaters and campers, including cabins.

Address: 6254 Satterwhite Point Road  
Henderson, NC 27537  
(252) 438-7791  
(919) 438-4441 or (919) 492-1426



### **Lake James State Park**

Tucked away in rolling hills at the base of Linville Gorge is Lake James, a 6,510-acre lake with more than 150 miles of shoreline. This impressive waterway is the centerpiece of Lake James State Park. Here, nature offers scenic vistas of the Appalachian Mountains and beckons to those with an appetite for recreation.

Address: P.O. Box 340  
Nebo, NC 28761  
(828) 652-5047



### **Lake Norman State Park**

At Lake Norman State Park, fun is just a matter of scale. On one hand, there is the largest manmade lake in the state, Lake Norman. When filled to capacity, its surface area is 32,510 acres with a shoreline of 520 miles and a main channel 34 miles in length — thus its nickname, the "Inland Sea." Thirteen miles of the shoreline are in the state park, which provides boating access.

On another hand, the park boasts its own 33-acre lake where fishing and boating are enjoyed. And with hiking trails, picnic areas, interpretive programs and campgrounds, there is more to Lake Norman State Park than merely water.

Address: 159 Inland Sea Lane  
Troutman, NC 28166  
(704) 528-6350



### **Lake Waccamaw State Park**

Discover one-of-a-kind aquatic animals found nowhere else on earth. The lake is home to the Lake Waccamaw killifish and a number of other unique fish mollusks. Spend an evening in the primitive campground or enjoy a picnic under stately trees hung with Spanish moss.

Address: 1866 State Park Drive  
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450  
(910) 646-4748



### **Lumber River State Park**

Lumber River State Park contains 8,438 acres of land and 115 miles of state natural and scenic waters, 81 miles of which are also designated national wild and scenic waters. The park's recreation activities are currently centered at two access areas, Princess Ann and Chalk Banks. Princess Ann overlooks a unique reverse flow area named Griffin's Whirl. At the access, a bend in the river opens to a long, straight vista that beckons paddlers to take a ride.

Address: 2819 Princess Ann Road  
Orrum, NC 28369  
(910) 628-4564



### **Medoc Mountain State Park**

Canoe the creeks or hike the trails to appreciate the beauty of this unusual mixture of plant and animal life. Not really a mountain, but a granite ridge, Medoc Mountain is the remains of an ancient mountain range formed by volcanic action. A rewarding experience in any season, but especially in the spring when the bluffs and ravines are covered with the blossoms of mountain laurel.

Address: 1541 Medoc State Park Road  
Hollister, NC 27844  
(252) 586-6588 or (252) 586-6476



### **Merchants Millpond State Park**

Discover one of the state's rarest ecological communities. Massive cypress and gum trees covered with Spanish moss form a canopy for the dark, acid waters of the millpond — a wilderness sanctuary for wetland wildlife. Paddle quietly through the pond and creek and encounter beavers, otters and owls.

Address: 71 U.S. 158 East  
Gatesville, NC 27938  
(252) 357-1191



### **Mayo River State Park**

Authorized by the N.C. General Assembly in May 2003, the Mayo River State Park is in the early stages of development for future public use. Construction is expected to begin in late 2008. Plans include a visitor contact station, picnic shelter, rest rooms, maintenance facility, and improvements to parking and the entrance road.

Address: P.O. Box 100  
Mayodan, NC 27027  
(336) 427-2530



### **Morrow Mountain State Park**

View the skeletal remains of a once-mighty range of peaks. Located along the Pee Dee River and Lake Tillery, Morrow Mountain features miles of mountain trails to wander on foot or horseback. Visit the historic Kron House, which was the residence, greenhouse and hospital of an early 19th century physician. Stay for a while in a cabin or a campsite and enjoy a dip in the pool or a boat ride on the lake.

Address: 49104 Morrow Mountain Road  
Albemarle, NC 28001  
(704) 982-4402



Hiking in the Blue Ridge Mountains



### **Mount Jefferson State Natural Area**

Broaden your horizons with scenic vistas and colorful displays of mountain flora. You can see forever on a clear day. Stroll the short nature trail through the magnificent forest, a National Natural Landmark.

Address: P.O. Box 48  
Jefferson, NC 28640  
(336) 246-9653



### **Mount Mitchell State Park**

Explore miles of hiking trails and reward yourself with breathtaking views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Ascend the highest peak east of the Mississippi, riding to 6,684 feet and watch the world take on a new perspective from the observation tower. Visit the museum and learn about the natural and cultural history of North Carolina's first state park. The famished hiker or the hungry tourist can enjoy a relaxing meal in the restaurant.

Address: 2388 N.C. 128  
Burnsville, NC 28714  
Office: (828) 675-4611  
Restaurant: (828) 675-9907



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Mount Mitchell State Park



### **New River State Park**

Canoe more than 26 miles of the national wild and scenic south fork of the New River, one of the oldest rivers in the world. Embark upon this gentle river from any of four access points for fishing, picnicking and inspiring mountain scenery.

Address: P.O. Box 48  
Jefferson, NC 28640  
(336) 982-2587



### **Occoneechee Mountain State Natural Area**

High scenic views and mountain trails await you at Occoneechee Mountain State Natural Area. This piedmont monadnock has been recognized as one of the most important natural areas in the Triangle. It is the highest point in Orange County at 867 feet, and the oak forest, pond, field, heath bluff and river habitats found on the mountain support species that are rare and significant in this region. With 190 acres and nearly three miles of trails, visitors can experience a wide variety of the area's natural surroundings and wildlife.

Address: 6101 Cole Mill Road  
Durham, NC 27705  
(919) 383-1686



### **Pettigrew State Park**

Reel 'em in at this 16,000-acre angler's paradise, teeming with largemouth bass, yellow perch and various panfish. Lake and wind conditions make Lake Phelps ideal for shallow-draft sailboats, canoeing and windsurfing. View displays of prehistoric Indian culture and take a journey back in time, or visit Somerset Place — a state historic site.

Address: 2252 Lake Shore Road  
Creswell, NC 27928  
(252) 797-4475



### **Pilot Mountain State Park**

Imagine a majestic pinnacle rising from out of nowhere, 1,400 feet above the surrounding countryside. Experienced climbers may climb Little Pinnacle Wall while others explore the adjoining woodland corridor on foot or horseback for a memorable view.

Address: 1792 Pilot Knob Park Road  
Pinnacle, NC 27043  
(336) 325-2355



### **Raven Rock State Park**

Here, the forest reigns as each year the timeless cycle of growth further heals age-old wounds inflicted by man. Nature triumphs as plants compete in the stages of forest succession and the woodlands are restored. High above the Cape Fear River stands Raven Rock, its austere beauty a testament to the forces that have shaped the land.

Address: 3009 Raven Rock Road  
Lillington, NC 27546  
(910) 893-4888



### **Singletary Lake State Park**

For canoeing, swimming and nature walks, bring the group to an area designed for organized camping. Two group camps contain mess halls, kitchens, campers' cabins and wash houses. Rangers will conduct special nature programs for your group and explain the unique phenomenon of the Carolina bays.

Address: 6707 NC 53 East  
Kelly, NC 28448  
(910) 669-2928



### **South Mountains**

Hike the rugged trail to High Shoals Falls and enjoy the crystal clear waters as they plunge 80 feet into a large pool. For a true wilderness experience, backpack through the woodlands for primitive camping or fish for trout in 12 miles of sparkling mountain streams.

Address: 3001 South Mountain Park Ave.  
Connelly Springs, NC 28612  
(828) 433-4772 or (828) 433-4686



### **Stone Mountain State Park**

Stone Mountain is not immediately visible upon entering the park that bears its name, but this magnificent 600-foot granite dome is well worth the wait. Test your fly-fishing techniques in more than 20 miles of designated trout waters. Designated as a National Natural Landmark in 1975, Stone Mountain is bounded on the north by the Blue Ridge Parkway and on the west by the Thurmond Chatham Game Lands. More than 14,100 acres of mountain beauty offer opportunities for outdoor activities of all kinds.

Address: 3042 Frank Parkway  
Roaring Gap, NC 28668  
(336) 957-8185



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Fishing at Umstead Park





### **Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve**

Imagine the trees of Weymouth, England as you view the longleaf pines. Listen for the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, a permanent resident of the Sandhills region. Tour the nature center museum where the region's unique features are studied, interpreted and protected.

Address: 1024 Fort Bragg Road  
Southern Pines, NC 28387  
(910) 692-2167



### **William B. Umstead State Park**

Tucked between the growing cities of Raleigh, Cary, Durham and the corporate world of Research Triangle Park is an oasis of tranquility, a peaceful haven — William B. Umstead State Park. Here, two worlds merge as the sounds of civilization give way to the unhurried rhythm of nature. Highways fade in the distance as trees, flowers, birds and streams form a more natural community. William B. Umstead is a place to escape the pressures of everyday life, a place to picnic in the pines, to wait for a fish to bite, to take a hike or horseback ride on trails through the woods.

Address: 8801 Glenwood Ave.  
Raleigh, NC 27617  
(919) 571-4170



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Hiking in North Carolina

# HISTORIC SITES

## 1 **John C. Campbell Folk School (NR)**

1 Folk School Road  
Brasstown, NC 28902  
(800) 356-5724, (828) 837-2775  
[www.folkschool.org](http://www.folkschool.org)  
Folk School, established in 1925 and modeled upon Danish tradition of Folk Schools.

## 2 **Cherokee County Historical Museum (NR)**

205 Peachtree St.  
Murphy, NC 28906  
(828) 837-6792  
[www.cherokeecounty-nc.gov/departments/museum/](http://www.cherokeecounty-nc.gov/departments/museum/)  
The museum reflects Cherokee Indian life before and during displacement. It also depicts the early white settlers of the county.

## 3 **Harshaw Chapel (Old Methodist Church) \*(NR)**

806 Valley River Ave.  
Murphy, NC 28906  
(828) 837-28777  
Handsome brick church with strong Greek Revival influences. There is some original furniture and an old cemetery.

## 4 **The Pendergrass Building \*(NR)**

6 Main St.  
Franklin, NC 28734  
(828) 524-9758  
Originally a retail store building, now a museum displaying local historic and cultural artifacts and photographs.



Artisan at John C. Campbell Folk School

## 5 **Brevard Chamber of Commerce Building**

35 W. Main St.  
Brevard, NC 28712  
(800) 648-4523  
[www.visitwaterfalls.com](http://www.visitwaterfalls.com)  
[www.brevardncchamber.org](http://www.brevardncchamber.org)  
A 1900 structure located in the center of town and used as an information center.

## 6 **Allison-Deaver House \*(NR)**

Intersection of U.S. 276/U.S. 64/N.C.280  
Pisgah Forest (near Brevard)  
(828) 884-5137  
[www.preservingourpast.org](http://www.preservingourpast.org)  
Claimed to be the oldest extant frame house west of the Blue Ridge in North Carolina. It will be opened as a house museum and heritage education center.

\* Handicap Accessible  
(NR) National Register of Historic Places  
◆ State Historic Site

7

**Gov. Zebulon Vance Birthplace ♦**

911 Reems Creek Road  
Weaverville, NC 28787  
(828) 645-6706

[www.nchistoricsites.org/vance/vance.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/vance/vance.htm)

A reconstructed 1830s mountain farmstead with a log house and six outbuildings; birthplace of the state's Civil War governor and later U.S. senator.

8

**Biltmore Estate \*(NR)**

1 North Pack Square  
Asheville, NC 28801  
(800) 543-2961

[www.biltmore.com](http://www.biltmore.com)

A 250-room French Chateau which contains original artwork and furnishings surrounded by 75 acres of elaborate gardens and landscaping.

9

**Biltmore Village Historic Museum \*(NR)**

7 Angle St.  
Asheville, NC 28803  
(828) 274-9707

[www.biltmorevillage.com](http://www.biltmorevillage.com)

A museum of Biltmore Village, a local historic district containing three Richard Morris Hunt buildings.



The Biltmore House

10

**Estes-Winn Memorial Automobile Museum and N.C. Homespun Museum \*(NR)**

111 Grovewood Road  
Asheville, NC 28804  
(828) 253-7651

[www.grovewood.com](http://www.grovewood.com)

The Estes-Winn Museum is an English cottage-style building, housing a collection of automobiles dating 1913-1957. The N.C. Homespun Museum is also in a 1919 English cottage-style building and features the history of the Biltmore Industries handweaving operation in film, pictures and artifacts.

11

**The Thomas Wolfe Memorial ♦**

52 N. Market St.  
Asheville, NC 28801  
(828) 253-8304

[www.nchistoricsites.org/wolfe/wolfe.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/wolfe/wolfe.htm)

Boyhood home of author Thomas Wolfe. A Queen Anne-style dwelling which provided the setting for *Look Homeward Angel*.

12

**Smith-McDowell House Museum \*(NR)**

283 Victoria Road  
Asheville, NC 28801  
(828) 253-9231

Tours, programs and exhibits are featured in this 1840s brick plantation home.

13

**The Old Depot \*(NR)**

207 Sutton Ave.  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
(828) 669-6583

[www.olddepot.org](http://www.olddepot.org)

A small town train station built about 1893.

**14 Carson House (NR)**

1805 U.S. 70 West  
Old Fort, NC 28762  
(828) 724-4948

The 19th century plantation house is now a repository for pioneer artifacts and furnishings.

**15 Mountain Gateway Museum and Heritage Center \***

102 Water St.  
Old Fort, NC 28762  
(828) 668-9259

[www.ncmuseumofhistory.org/osm/mgw.html](http://www.ncmuseumofhistory.org/osm/mgw.html)

A museum of Western North Carolina frontier life with two restored early log houses.

**16 Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site**

81 Carl Sandburg Lane  
Flat Rock, NC 28731  
(828) 693-4178

[www.nps.gov/carl](http://www.nps.gov/carl)

The home of Carl Sandburg during his later years. The house is built in low-country plantation style. Books and memorabilia.

**17 Cleveland County Historical Museum \*(NR)**

Court Square  
Shelby, NC 28150  
(704) 482-8186

[www.clevelandcounty.com/tourism/attractions.htm](http://www.clevelandcounty.com/tourism/attractions.htm)

A Classical Revival courthouse housing historical artifacts pertaining to local history.

**18 Historic Webbely \*(NR)**

403 S. Washington St.  
Shelby, NC 28150  
(704) 487-0616

[www.maxgardner.com/historicwebbely.html](http://www.maxgardner.com/historicwebbely.html)

Built in 1852 in Italianate style by Augustus Burton, this home has been visited by every N.C. governor at least once.

**19 Kouris Warehouse \***

200 W. Warren St.  
Shelby, NC 28150

[www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travellshelby/kou.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travellshelby/kou.htm)

A Colonial Revival brick warehouse housing the Shelby Farmers Market.

**20 Former Post Office of Shelby \*(NR)**

111 S. Washington St.  
Shelby, NC 28150  
(704) 484-2787

A Colonial Revival post office built in 1916 which has been converted into an arts center.

**21 Well House \*(NR) Court Square**

Shelby, NC 28151  
(704) 481-1842

Formerly an open, brick-arched well house, it now houses the Historic Shelby Foundation.

**22 Shelby City Hall \*(NR)**

300 S. Washington St.  
Shelby, NC 28150  
(704) 484-6801

A Georgian Revival brick building constructed in 1939 used as city hall and firehouse.



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Carl Sandburg Home

### **23 The Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center**

121 Schoolhouse Road  
Robbinsville, NC 28771  
(828) 479-3364

[www.stecoahvalleycenter.com](http://www.stecoahvalleycenter.com)

Located in a renovated schoolhouse, the Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center provides cultural arts resources to Graham County and promotes Southern Appalachian mountain culture.

### **24 Appalachian State University**

Boone, NC 28608  
(828) 262-3117

[www.museum.appstate.edu/index.html](http://www.museum.appstate.edu/index.html)

The museum, housed in the contemporary University Hall, offers exhibits on the development of culture in the Blue Ridge region.

### **25 Flat Top Manor, Moses H. Cone Memorial Park**

Blue Ridge Parkway  
Blowing Rock, NC  
(828) 295-3782

Mountain retreat of Greensboro industrialist Moses Cone. Now a craft center.

### **26 Hickory Ridge Homestead \***

Horn in the West Drive  
Boone, NC 28607  
(828) 264-2120

[www.horninthewest.com/museum.htm](http://www.horninthewest.com/museum.htm)

This late-18th century log house is representative of the period and has exhibits with local emphasis. Site for the outdoor drama, "Horn in the West."

### **27 Mast General Store \*(NR)**

3565 N.C. 194  
Valle Crucis, NC 28691  
(828) 963-6511

[www.mastgeneralstore.com](http://www.mastgeneralstore.com)

Well preserved late-19th century general store set in picturesque valley. Built in 1883 and still in operation.

### **28 Chapel of Rest**

1964 N.C. 268  
Lenoir, NC 28645  
(828) 726-0323

[www.caldwellcochamber.org](http://www.caldwellcochamber.org)

Constructed in 1887 and rebuilt in 1918. A beautiful country chapel and cemetery with special church services and Sunday afternoon concerts.

### **29 Historic Robert Cleveland Log House**

203 N. Bridge St.  
Wilkesboro, NC 28697  
(336) 667-3171

[www.wilkesnc.org/history/cleveland](http://www.wilkesnc.org/history/cleveland)

This log dwelling was built in 1779 by Robert Cleveland and features period furnishings.

**30 Fort Defiance (NR)**

1792 Fort Defiance Drive  
Lenior, NC 28645  
(828) 758-1671

[www.fortdefiancenc.org](http://www.fortdefiancenc.org)

The 1792 home of Revolutionary War Gen. William Lenoir featuring original furnishings.

**31 Old Wilkes Jail Museum (NR)**

203 N. Bridge St.  
North Wilkesboro, NC 28697  
(336) 667-3712

[www.blueridgeheritage.com/artsandcrafts/museums/oldwilkesjail.html](http://www.blueridgeheritage.com/artsandcrafts/museums/oldwilkesjail.html)

Built by Mr. Shipwash (also the first escapee), it contains furnished living quarters and the jail cell where Tom Dooley was incarcerated.

**32 Andy Griffith Playhouse \***

218 Rockford St.  
Mount Airy, NC 27030  
(336) 786-7998

[www.visitmayberry.com](http://www.visitmayberry.com)

A renovated theater and arts center named for North Carolina's most famous actor.

**33 The Gertrude Smith House \*(NR)**

708 N. Main St.  
Mount Airy, NC 27030  
(336) 786-6856

[www.visitmayberry.com](http://www.visitmayberry.com)

A 1903 Victorian home with period furnishings.

**34 Horne Creek Living Historical Farm ♦**

308 Horne Creek Farm Road  
Pinnacle, NC 27043  
(336) 325-2298

[www.nchistoricsites.org/horne/horne.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/horne/horne.htm)

A hands-on display of turn-of-the-century farm life in the piedmont area of North Carolina.

**35 The Robert Smith House \*(NR)**

615 N. Main St.  
Mount Airy, NC 27030  
(336) 789-4636, (800) 576-0231

[www.visitmountairy.com](http://www.visitmountairy.com)

1910 Colonial Revival home formerly housing the Mount Airy Visitors Center.

**36 The Alexander Dickson House \*(NR)**

150 E. King St.  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
(919) 732-7741

[www.historichillsborough.org](http://www.historichillsborough.org)

Late-18th century piedmont farmhouse. The small office to the rear was used by Gen. Joseph E. Johnston at the time of his surrender to Union Gen. William T. Sherman.

**37 Ayr Mount (NR)**

376 St. Mary's Road  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
(919) 732-6886

[www.historichillsborough.com](http://www.historichillsborough.com)

Beautifully restored 1817 brick plantation house with excellent decorative arts collection and pastoral setting.





**Bennett Place State Historic Site *\*(NR)* ♦**

4409 Bennett Memorial Road  
Durham, NC 27705  
(919) 383-4345

[www.nchistoricsites.org/bennett/bennett.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bennett/bennett.htm)

Reconstructed farmhouse where Gen. Johnston and Gen. Sherman met to sign the largest surrender of the Civil War.



**Blandwood Mansion (NR)**

447 W. Washington St.,  
Greensboro, NC 27401  
(336) 272-5003

[www.blandwood.org/blandwood.html](http://www.blandwood.org/blandwood.html)

Former house of N.C. Gov. John M. Morehead. The addition designed in 1844 by A.J. Davis is the oldest remaining example of Italian Villa architecture in the United States.



**Chinqua-Penn Plantation (NR)**

2138 Wentworth St.  
Reidsville, NC 27320  
(336) 349-4576

[www.chinquapenn.com](http://www.chinquapenn.com)

A 1920s country manor filled with eclectic art treasures on 23 acres with formal gardens.



**Duke Homestead State Historic Site and Tobacco Museum *\*(NR)* ♦**

2828 Duke Homestead Road  
Durham, NC 27705  
(919) 477-5498

[www.nchistoricsites.org/duke/duke.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/duke/duke.htm)

An 1852 vernacular piedmont farmhouse with outbuildings and a museum.



**Duke University Chapel\***

101 Chapel Drive  
Durham, NC 27708  
(919) 684-8150

[www.chapel.duke.edu](http://www.chapel.duke.edu)

Beautiful Gothic church on main Duke campus, worship services and tours.



**William Fields House *\*(NR)***

447 Arlington St.  
Greensboro, NC 27406  
(336) 272-6617

A Gothic Revival dwelling featuring steep gabled roof and arched former windows.



**Greensboro Historical Museum *\*(NR)***

130 Summit Ave.  
Greensboro, NC 27401  
(336) 373-2043

[www.greensborohistory.org](http://www.greensborohistory.org)

Museum complex contains buildings dating as early as 1892. It includes a renovated church, two historic houses and local history exhibits.



**Hayti Heritage Center *\*(NR)***

804 Old Fayetteville St.  
Durham, NC 27701  
(919) 683-1709

[www.hayti.org](http://www.hayti.org)

Constructed in the Hayti community in 1891, the old St. Joseph's African Methodist Episcopal Church, one of Durham's oldest ecclesiastical structures, houses a heritage center which promotes the understanding of the African-American experience.

**46****Historic Stagville Center  
\*(NR) ♦**

5825 Old Oxford Highway  
Bahama, NC 27503  
(919) 620-0120

[www.historicstagvillefoundation.org](http://www.historicstagvillefoundation.org)

Plantation seat of the Bennehan and Cameron families featuring a late-18th century dwelling, rare four-room slave houses and a massive timber frame barn.

**47****Hugh Mangum Museum of  
Photography/McCown-  
Mangum House (NR)**

5101 N. Roxboro Road  
Durham, NC 27704  
(919) 471-1623

Modified Greek Revival dwelling restored to its late 1890s appearance contains the works of Hugh Mangum, a 20th century photographer, as well as contemporary exhibits.

**48****Orange County Historical  
Museum (NR)**

201 N. Churton St.  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
(919) 732-2201

[www.orangecountymuseum.org](http://www.orangecountymuseum.org)

Museum houses a fine collection of pre-historic to Civil War period household goods.

**49****Alamance Battleground  
\*(NR) ♦**

5803 N.C. 62 South  
Burlington, NC 27215  
(336) 227-4785

[www.nchistoricsites.org/alamance/alamance.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/alamance/alamance.htm)

Site of the 1771 battle between the forces of the Regulators and Royal Gov. William Tryon. On the site is an 18th century log house that belonged to John Allen, containing some original furniture and period artifacts.

**50****Snow Camp Historic Site \***

126 Sylvan School Road  
Snow Camp, NC 27349  
(336) 376-9433

[www.snowcamp.org](http://www.snowcamp.org)

A replica of a historic Quaker community featuring log houses and Quaker meeting houses with some period furnishings and artifacts.

**51****Eastern Cabarrus Historical  
Society Museum \*(NR)**

1100 N. Main St.  
Mount Pleasant, NC 28124  
(704) 436-6612

An 1855 Greek Revival boy's school displaying memorabilia and artifacts.

**52****Historic Cabarrus County  
Courthouse \*(NR)**

65 Union St.  
Concord, NC 28026-0966  
(704) 786-8515

Built in 1876, the building contains a museum displaying artifacts from the Revolutionary through the Vietnam wars.

**53****Josephus W. Hall House (NR)**

226 S. Jackson St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
(704) 636-0103

Large 1820 antebellum home. Tours given by guides in 1860s period costumes.

**54****Archibald Henderson Law  
Office (NR)**

201 W. Fisher St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
(704) 638-5207

[www.ci.salisbury.nc.us](http://www.ci.salisbury.nc.us)

An 1825 Federal-style law office.

**55 Memorial Garden**

36 Spring St.  
Concord, NC 28025  
(704) 786-8009

A former graveyard for First Presbyterian Church founded in 1804. It was established as a memorial garden in 1930 and has floral displays throughout the botanical garden.

**56 Reed Gold Mine \*(NR) ♦**

9621 Reed Mine Road  
Stanfield, NC 28163  
(704) 721-4653

[www.nchistoricsites.org/reed/reed.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/reed/reed.htm)

Site of the first documented gold find in the United States. Tours of the mine, stamp mill and panning operation.

**57 Rowan Museum/Utzman-Chambers House (NR)**

116 S. Jackson St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
(704) 633-5946

An 1814 townhouse featuring two period rooms and six other rooms with historical collections — costumes, military, toys and china. Also a 19th century formal garden.

**58 Snuggs House and Marks House \*(NR)**

245 E. Main St.  
Albemarle, NC 28001  
(704) 983-7316

The Snuggs House is an 1870s two-story farmhouse with a museum. The Marks house is a completely restored and furnished mid-19th century dwelling.

**59 N.C. Transportation Museum at Historic Spencer Shops \*(NR) ♦**

411 S. Salisbury Ave.  
Spencer, NC 28159  
(704) 636-2889

<http://www.nctrans.org>

The museum interprets the development of transportation in North Carolina at the site of the old steam repair facility for the Southern Railway.

**60 "Old Stone House" (NR) or Michael Braun House**

2077 Robin Road  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
(704) 278-3000

A large 1766 stone house built by Michael Braun, an early German immigrant. Only pre-Revolutionary War dwelling in Rowan County.

**61 Malcolm Blue Farmstead and Museum \*(NR)**

1177 Bethesda Road  
Aberdeen, NC 28315  
(910) 944-7685

[www.malcolmbbluefarm.com](http://www.malcolmbbluefarm.com)

Mid-19th century farmhouse, grist mill and windmill, and a museum featuring Scottish heritage, agricultural and local history.

**62 Joel McLendon Cabin/James Bryant House (NR)**

3361 Mt. Carmel Road  
Carthage, NC 28388  
(910) 947-3995

Furnished early-19th century farmhouse and late-18th century log building.

**63 Shaw House Properties (NR)**

100 S.W. Broad St.  
Southern Pines, NC 28387  
(910) 692-2051

[www.moorehistory.com](http://www.moorehistory.com)

Three houses representing life in the early years of the Sandhills from the 1700s to 1840s that are now used for business offices.

**64 Town Creek Indian Mound \*(NR) ♦**

509 Town Creek Mound Road  
Mount Gilead, NC 27306  
(910) 439-6802

[www.nchistoricsites.org/town/town.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/town/town.htm)

Reconstructed 13th century Indian ceremonial center.

**65 Ellerbe Springs Inn \*(NR)**

2537 U.S. 220 North  
Ellerbe, NC 28379  
(800) 248-6467

[www.ellerbesprings.com](http://www.ellerbesprings.com)

Victorian inn built by H. E. Bonitz of Wilmington.

**66 Rankin Museum of American Heritage \***

131 W. Church St.  
Ellerbe, NC 28338  
(910) 652-6378

[www.rankinmuseum.com](http://www.rankinmuseum.com)

A 5,000-square-foot building housing Indian artifacts, an African exhibit and related artifacts.

**67 Chatham County Historical Museum \*(NR)**

Courthouse Square  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
(919) 542-3603

<http://chathamhistory.org/museum.html>

Built in 1881 by T. B. Womack, this courthouse dominates downtown Pittsboro.

**68 House in the Horseshoe (NR) ♦**

324 Alston House Road  
Sanford, NC 27330  
(910) 947-2051

[www.nchistoricsites.org/horseshol/horsesho.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/horseshol/horsesho.htm)

Plantation house dating to 1770, containing period antiques and surrounded by a lovely garden in the spring and summer.

**69 Gov. Charles B. Aycock Birthplace (NR) ♦**

264 Governor Aycock Road  
Freemont, NC 27830  
(919) 242-5581

[www.nchistoricsites.org/aycock/aycock.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/aycock/aycock.htm)

The 1846 coastal cottage is the birthplace of the former governor. An 1893 one-room schoolhouse is also on the site.

**70 Bentonville Battleground (NR) ♦**

5466 Harper House Road  
Four Oaks, NC 28366  
(910) 594-0789

[www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvil/bentonvi.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvil/bentonvi.htm)

Site of one of the last great Civil War battles. Also site of the Harper House, which was used as an improvised hospital after the March 1865 battle.

**71 Caswell-Neuse State Historic Site ♦**

2612 W. Vernon Ave.  
Kinston, NC 28501  
(252) 522-2091

[www.nchistoricsites.org/neuse/neuse.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/neuse/neuse.htm)

An 1862 ironclad-ramming Confederate vessel sunk during the Civil War and was pulled from the Neuse River in 1963.

**72 Community Council for the Arts \*(NR) ♦**

400 N. Queen St.  
Kinston, NC 28501  
(252) 527-2517

[www.kinstoncca.com](http://www.kinstoncca.com)

Community Council for the Arts features six galleries, shopping and artist studios in a historic downtown commercial building.

**73 Harmony Hall \*(NR)**

100 S. King St.  
Kinston, NC 28501  
(252) 522-0421

[www.harmonyhallnc.com](http://www.harmonyhallnc.com)

The house contains 18th and 19th century period furnishings.

**74 Wayne County Museum \***

116 N. William St.  
Goldsboro, NC 27530  
(919) 734-5023

[www.waynecountyhistoricalnc.org](http://www.waynecountyhistoricalnc.org)

Neo-classical museum housing local art.

**75 Old Waynesborough Park \***

801-B U.S. 117 South Bypass  
Goldsboro, NC 27530  
(919) 731-1653

[www.wcpl.org/waynesborough.htm](http://www.wcpl.org/waynesborough.htm)

Park constructed on the site of the original county seat, Waynesborough, to preserve the tradition, history, structures and artifacts of pre-1875 Wayne County.

**76 Lake Waccamaw Depot Museum \*(NR)**

203 Flemington Drive  
Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450  
(910) 646-1992

The Depot Museum features exhibits highlighting the history of the area surrounding Lake Waccamaw.

**77 Brunswick Town (NR) ♦**

8884 Saint Phillips Road S.E.  
Winnabow, NC 28479  
(910) 371-6613

[www.nchistoricsites.org/brunswick/brunswick.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/brunswick/brunswick.htm)

Archaeological remains of a major pre-Revolutionary port along the Cape Fear River, including the ruins of St. Phillip's Church.

**78 Museum of the Albemarle \***

501 S. Water St.  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909  
(252) 335-1453

[www.museumofthealbemarle.com](http://www.museumofthealbemarle.com)

Museum housing exhibits and artifacts dating back to the earliest settlements in North Carolina.

**79 Cherry Hill (NR)**

N.C. 58 Box 98  
Warrenton, NC 27589  
(252) 257-4432.

1858 Italianate plantation house attributed to builder John Waddell. Site of concert series and other cultural activities in spring and fall.

**80 Jacob Holt House \*(NR)**

122 S. Bragg St.  
Warrenton, NC 27589  
(252) 257-0337

1857 Italianate residence of Warren County builder, Jacob Holt, who is credited with building many plantation homes in the area.

**81 Old Gates County Courthouse \*(NR)**

115 Court St.  
Gatesville, NC 27938  
(252) 357-0110

A rare example of a Federal-style seat of local government, now serving as a county library with exhibits.

**82 BB&T (Arts Council of Wilson) \*(NR)**

124 E. Nash St.  
Wilson, NC 27893  
(252) 291-4329

[www.wilsonarts.com](http://www.wilsonarts.com)

A 1903 Neo-Classical bank building now converted into an arts center.

**83 Asa Biggs House (NR)**

100 E. Church St.  
Williamston, NC 27892  
(800) 776-8566

[www.albemarle-nc.com/martin/history/biggs.htm](http://www.albemarle-nc.com/martin/history/biggs.htm)

Early-19th century house with Greek Revival additions.

**84 Fort Branch — Confederate Earthen Fort \*(NR)**

2883 Fort Branch Road  
Hamilton, NC 27840  
(800) 776-8566

[www.fortbranchcivilwarsite.com](http://www.fortbranchcivilwarsite.com)

Confederate fort with museum, original cannons, local Indian and colonial artifacts and an annual battle reenactment in November.

**85 Blount-Bridgers House/  
Hobson Pittman Memorial Gallery \*(NR)**

130 Bridgers St.  
Tarboro, NC 27886  
(252) 823-4159

1808 plantation home of Thomas Blount. Historic period rooms on the first floor and permanent collection of N.C. artist Hobson Pittman on the second floor.



N.C. Travel & Tourism

Cupola House in Historic Edenton

**86 Old Martin County Courthouse (NR)**

215 E. Main St.  
Williamston, NC 27892  
(252) 792-3562

[www.albemarle-nc.com/martin/history/courthouse.htm](http://www.albemarle-nc.com/martin/history/courthouse.htm)

Built in 1885, an unusual example of late -19th century architecture, combining Italianate, Medieval and Victorian elements in a castle-like structure.

**87 St. Martin's Church \*(NR)**

South First Street  
Hamilton, NC 27840  
(252) 798-5561

Built in 1874, this Gothic Revival church contains unique English stained glass windows.

**88 Williamston Historic Commercial District (NR)**

P.O. Box 506  
Williamston, NC 27892  
Includes parts of a seven-block downtown area bounded by Main, Watts, Church and Haughton streets.



**89 Edna Boykin Cultural Center**

108 W. Nash St.  
Wilson, NC 27893  
(252) 291-4320

[www.wilsonarts.com](http://www.wilsonarts.com)

A 650-seat proscenium theatre with an exhibition gallery in its lobby, the EBCC is Wilson's home for the performing arts.

**90 Historic Edenton Tour (NR)**

116 E. King St.  
Edenton, NC 27932  
(252) 482-3400

[www.visitedenton.com](http://www.visitedenton.com)

Tour starts at 1892 Ziegler House (Visitors Center), goes to 1767 Chowan County Courthouse; 1757 Cupola House, finest Jacobean-style house south of Connecticut; the James Iredell House, home of a prominent 18th century North Carolinian; the Penelope Barker House; and St. Paul's Church (Episcopal), the second oldest church in the state.

**91 Hope Plantation (NR)**

132 Hope House Road  
Windsor, NC 27983  
(252) 794-3140

[www.hopeplantation.org](http://www.hopeplantation.org)

Mansion built circa 1803. King-Bazemore and Samuel Cox homes also on grounds. View Agrarian Society and rural domestic plantation life.

**92 Port O'Plymouth Roanoke Museum \*(NR)**

302 E. Water St  
Plymouth, NC 27962  
(252) 793-1377

Historic train depot is now a museum housing exhibits about the Battle of Plymouth in 1864 and Washington County.

**93 Newbold-White House \*(NR)**

151 Newbold Road  
Hertford, NC 27944  
(252) 426-7567

[www.newboldwhitehouse.com](http://www.newboldwhitehouse.com)

North Carolina's oldest brick house, built in 1730, featuring leaded casement windows, Flemish bond brickwork and period furnishings.

**94 Atlantic Coastline Railroad Station & Warehouse \*(NR)**

108 Gladden St.  
Washington, NC 27889  
(252) 946-2504

The first stop on Washington's historic walking tour. Built in 1906, it features bi-monthly art exhibits.

**95 Historic Bath State Historic Site \*(NR) ♦**

Carteret Street  
Bath, NC 27808  
(252) 923-3971

[www.nchistoricsites.org/bath/bath.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bath/bath.htm)

Four buildings featuring colonial, federal and late federal styles. Each displays aspects of early life of the oldest town in North Carolina, incorporated in 1705.

**96 Belhaven Memorial Museum\***

210 E. Main St.  
Belhaven, NC 27810  
(252) 943-3055

[www.beaufort-county.com/Belhaven/museum/Belhaven.htm](http://www.beaufort-county.com/Belhaven/museum/Belhaven.htm)

An early-20th century structure, which houses a collection of "everything" — like browsing through your grandmother's attic.

97

### **Chicamacomico Lifesaving Station (NR)**

23645 N.C. 12  
Rodanthe, NC 27968  
(252) 987-2401

[www.chicamacomico.net](http://www.chicamacomico.net)

1911 lifesaving station is a museum of the lifesaving service. Several buildings date to 1874.

98

### **Roanoke Island Festival Park — Home of the Elizabeth II \***

N.C. 400 (opposite Manteo waterfront)  
Manteo, NC 27954  
(252) 475-1500

[www.roanokeisland.com](http://www.roanokeisland.com)

A full-scale reproduction of a sailing vessel typical of those that brought the first colonists to America.

99

### **The Lost Colony Outdoor Drama \***

1409 National Park Drive  
Manteo, NC 27954  
(252) 473-3414

[www.thelostcolony.org](http://www.thelostcolony.org)

Waterside theater is home to the nation's first and longest running outdoor drama, "The Lost Colony."

100

### **Octagon House Restoration (NR)**

30868 U.S. 264  
Engelhard, NC 27824  
(252) 925-5201

One of the few octagonal houses in North Carolina — it serves as home to the Chamber of Commerce and has a local museum.



N.C. Travel & Tourism

The Lost Colony Outdoor Drama

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### **Somerset Place (NR) ♦**

2527 Lake Shore Road  
Creswell, NC 27928  
(252) 797-4560

[www.nchistoricsites.org/somerset/somerset.htm](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/somerset/somerset.htm)

Collins family rice plantation, including 1830 home built for Josiah Collins III. One of the largest antebellum plantations in North Carolina at 1,400 cultivated acres. It is located on the grounds of Pettigrew State Park.

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### **Beaufort Historic Site (NR)**

130 Turner St.  
Beaufort, NC 28516  
(252) 728-5225

[www.beauforthistoricsite.org](http://www.beauforthistoricsite.org)

A tour of authentically restored and furnished houses and public buildings of the 18th and 19th centuries.



**Frisco American Indian  
Museum and Natural History  
Center (NR)**

53536 N.C. 12  
Frisco, NC 27936  
(252) 995-4440

[www.nativeamericanmuseum.org/](http://www.nativeamericanmuseum.org/)

American Indian artifacts, historical and educational exhibits and self-guided trails through woods.



**St. John in the Wilderness  
Church (NR)**

1905 Greenville Highway  
Flat Rock, NC 28731  
(828) 693-9783

[www.stjohnflatrock.org/](http://www.stjohnflatrock.org/)

This church was established in 1836 and is the first Episcopal Church in Western North Carolina. Many well-known members of Southern Aristocracy have family plots in the church yard.



**Churches of the Frescoes-  
St. Mary's**

N.C. 194  
West Jefferson, NC 28694  
(336) 982-3076

Created by native North Carolinian Ben Long. Mary, Great with Child; John the Baptist; and The Mystery of Faith grace the sanctuary. Creations by Long's students also line the walls of this early -20th century church.



**Churches of the Frescoes-  
Holy Trinity Church**

195 J.W. Luke Road  
Glendale Springs, NC 28629  
(336) 982-3076

[www.churchofthefrescos.com](http://www.churchofthefrescos.com)

Features the Fresco of the Lord's Supper by Ben Long, a North Carolina native. Holy Trinity dates to the early 1900s. Other works include Jeffrey Mims' Fresco of Christ's Departure.



**City of Morganton Municipal  
Auditorium**

401 S. College St.  
Morganton, NC 28655  
(828) 438-5294  
(828) 433-SHOW

[www.commaonline.org](http://www.commaonline.org)

The City of Morganton Municipal Auditorium offers more than 100 entertainment events each year including musical acts, theatre performances and lectures.



**Averasboro Battlefield  
Museum**

P.O. Box 1811  
Dunn, NC 28335-1811  
(910) 891-5019

[www.averasboro.com](http://www.averasboro.com)

Museum with exhibits covering the history of the Civil War battle of Averasboro in March 1865.



**Gen. William C. Lee Airborne  
Museum**

209 W. Divine St.  
Dunn, NC 28334  
(910) 892-1947

[www.generalleeairbornemuseum.org](http://www.generalleeairbornemuseum.org)

Museum honoring the life of Gen. William C. Lee and the development of airborne warfare in the United States.



### **Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum**

P.O. Box 191

Hatteras, NC 27943

(252) 986-2995

Museum dedicated to the preservation, advancement and presentation of maritime history and the shipwrecks off North Carolina's Outer Banks.



### **U.S.S. North Carolina**

P.O. Box 480

Wilmington, NC 28402

(910) 251-5797

Restored World War II Battleship, located on the Cape Fear River in downtown Wilmington.



### **Cape Fear Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau**

24 N. Third St.

Wilmington, NC 28401

(877) 406-2356

Information center providing information about the Cape Fear region of North Carolina.



### **Thalian Hall**

310 Chestnut St.

Wilmington, NC 28402

(800) 523-2820

Performing Arts Center that has been in continuous use since 1858.



### **Burgwin-Wright House**

224 Market St.

Wilmington, NC 28401

(910) 762-0570

[www.burgwinwrighthouse.com](http://www.burgwinwrighthouse.com)

Built in 1770, the house with gardens is the oldest museum house in southeastern North Carolina, with décor and exhibits highlighting colonial living.



### **Bellamy Mansion**

503 Market St.

Wilmington, NC

(910) 251-3700

[www.bellamymansion.org](http://www.bellamymansion.org)

One of North Carolina's most spectacular examples of antebellum architecture built on the eve of the Civil War by free and enslaved black artisans. Now, the house is a museum focusing on history and design arts.



N.C. Travel & Tourism

U.S.S. North Carolina and downtown Wilmington



### ***Cape Fear Museum of History and Science***

814 Market St.  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
(910) 798-4350  
[www.capefearmuseum.com](http://www.capefearmuseum.com)



### ***Outer Banks History Center***

1 Festival Park Blvd.  
Manteo, NC 27954  
(252) 473-2655  
[www.obhistorycenter.net](http://www.obhistorycenter.net)  
A museum dedicated to preserving  
history of the Outer Banks.



### ***Blue and Gray Information Center***

101 East New Bern Road, Kinston, NC  
28504 (on US 70 near Route 258)  
(252) 522-0004  
This area visitor center stands on the  
site of the 1862 First Battle of Kinston  
and is a few miles west of the Battle  
of Wyse Fork, fought in the waning  
days of the war in 1865. Information  
and exhibits describe both battles. Also  
find information about the CSS Neuse  
and many other of the area's Civil War  
resources. Open daily.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

**NCDOT Scenic Byways Program,  
Roadside Environmental Unit, Scenic  
Byways**

1557 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1557  
(919) 733-2920  
[www.ncdot.org/~scenic](http://www.ncdot.org/~scenic)

**Travel Information**

**(Attractions, Special Events Calendar,  
Welcome Centers, etc.)**

**N.C. Department of Commerce,  
N.C. Travel and Tourism Division**

4324 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4324  
(919) 733-4171 OR 1-800-VISIT-NC  
[www.visitnc.com](http://www.visitnc.com)

**N.C. Ferry System  
(Rates and Schedules)  
NCDOT Ferry Division**

8550 Shipyard Road  
Manns Harbor, NC 27953  
(252) 473-3461 OR 1-800-BY-FERRY  
[www.ncferry.org](http://www.ncferry.org)

**N.C. State Parks**

**N.C. Department of Environment and  
Natural Resources**

**Division of Parks and Recreation**

1615 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1615  
(919) 733-4181  
[www.ncsparks.net](http://www.ncsparks.net)

**U.S. Forest Service**

160-A Zillicoa St.  
Asheville, NC 28802  
(828) 257-4200  
[www.cs.unca.edu/infscnc](http://www.cs.unca.edu/infscnc)

**N.C. Historic Sites**

**N.C. Department of Cultural Resources,  
Division of Archives and History**

4620 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4620  
(919) 733-7862  
[www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/hs](http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/hs)

**Blue Ridge Parkway**

199 Hemphill Knob Road  
Asheville, NC 28803  
(828) 271-4779  
[www.nps.gov/blri](http://www.nps.gov/blri)



# FOR MORE INFORMATION

## For Information on Accommodations:

### ***N.C. Bed & Breakfast and Inns Association***

509 Pollock St.  
New Bern, NC 28560  
1-800-849-5392  
[www.ncbbi.org](http://www.ncbbi.org)

### ***N.C. Campground Owners Association***

1002 Vandora Springs Road  
Garner, NC 27529  
(919) 779-5709

### ***N.C. Restaurant and Lodging Association***

6036 Six Forks Road  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
(919) 844-0098  
[www.ncra.org](http://www.ncra.org)

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Yadkin Valley Scenic Byway  
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U.S. 64 and S.R. 1548 Extension  
Outer Banks Scenic Byway Extension  
Atlantic and Sea Level Loop  
Outer Banks Scenic Byway Extension  
Harkers Island, Straits, Gloucester  
and Marshallberg Loop

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